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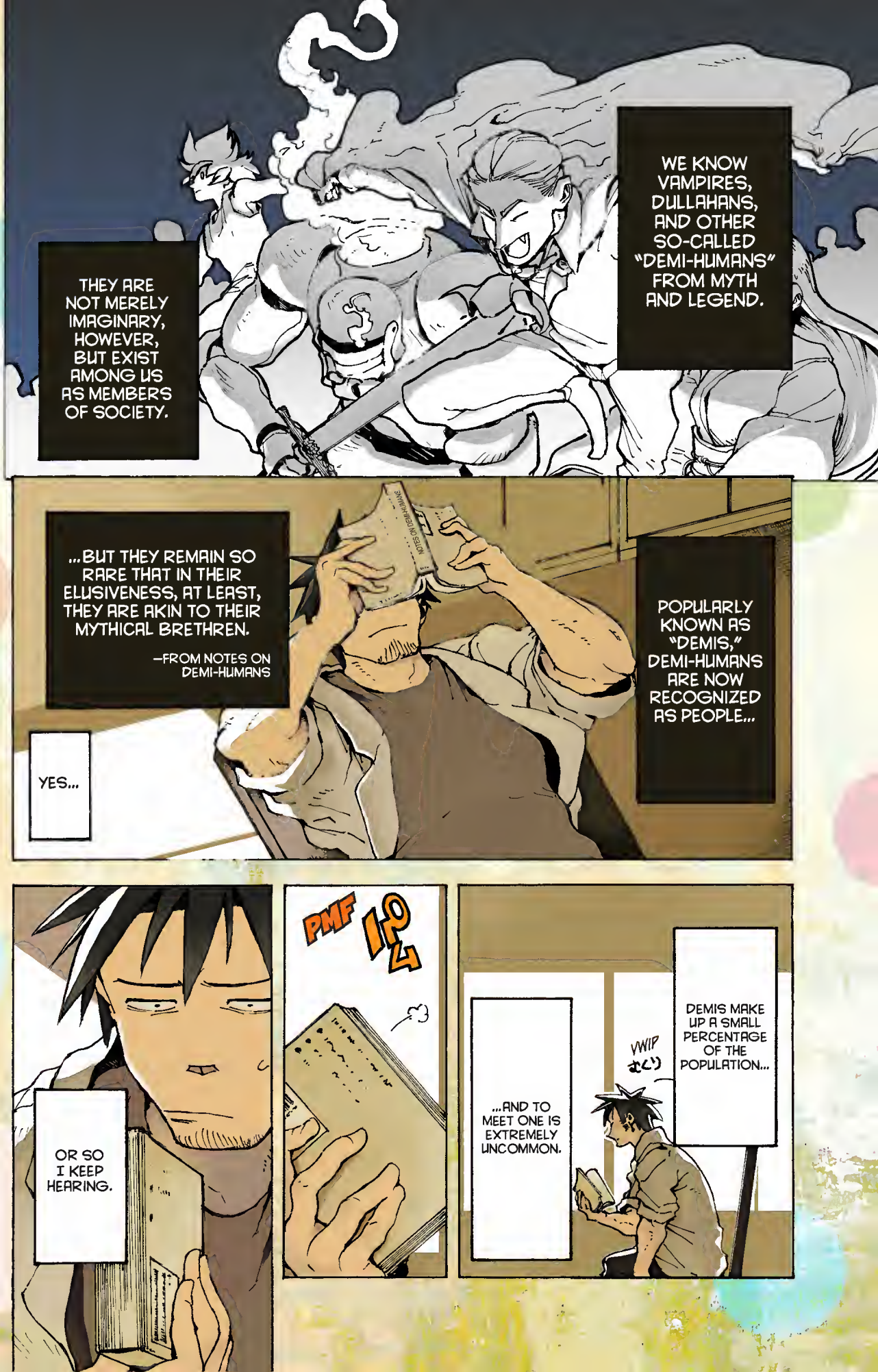
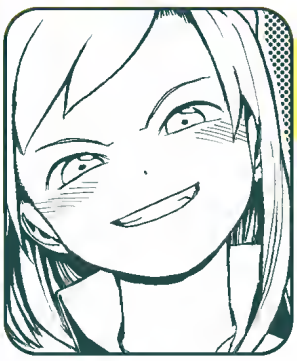
PETOS

INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS


WE KNOW VAMPIRES, DULLAHANS, AND OTHER SO-CALLED "DEMI-HUMANS" FROM MYTH AND LEGEND.
THEY ARE NOT MERELY IMAGINARY, HOWEVER, BUT EXIST AMONG US AS MEMBERS OF SOCIETY.
NOTES ON DEMI-HUMANS
POPULARLY KNOWN AS "DEMIS," DEMI-HUMANS ARE NOW RECOGNIZED AS PEOPLE...
...BUT THEY REMAIN SO RARE THAT IN THEIR ELUSIVENESS, AT LEAST, THEY ARE AKIN TO THEIR MYTHICAL BRETHREN.
–FROM NOTES ON DEMI-HUMANS
YES...
DEMIS MAKE UP A SMALL PERCENTAGE OF THE POPULATION...
VWIP
...AND TO MEET ONE IS EXTREMELY UNCOMMON.
PMF
OR SO I KEEP HEARING.

BUT MY SCHOOL SEEMS TO BE FULL OF THEM.

Interviews with Monster Girls Characters

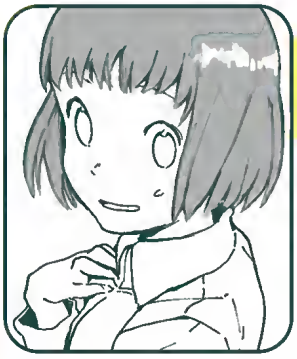


Vampire
Hikari Takanashi
1-B

- Likes liver, tomato juice.
- Receives blood from the government once a month.
- Opinions on romance: plenty; actual experience: none.

Dullahan
Kyoko Machi
1-B

- A demi from Irish folklore whose head and body are separate.
- Likes her head to be held.
- In love with Takahashi-sensei.



Snow Woman
Yuki Kusakabe
1-A

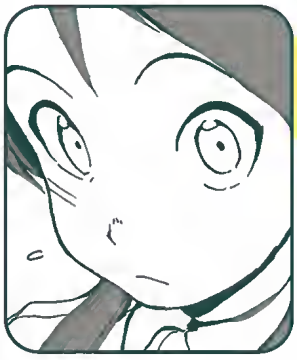
- Exudes cold air and weeps ice under stress.
- Avoids contact with others due to doubts about her own nature.

Succubus
Sakie Sato

- Math teacher.
- Lives in an isolated, dilapidated house so as not to unintentionally attract anyone.
- Romantic history: zilch.
- Has a crush on Takahashi-sensei.

Tetsuo Takahashi

- Biology teacher.
- Fascinated by demi studies since college.
- Tries his best to understand demis.



Himari Takanashi
1-C

- Hikari's younger twin sister. Human.
- Good grades, mature attitude—polar opposite of her sister.

*DEMIS: SHORT FOR "DEMI-HUMANS."

INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS

Volume 2

INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS

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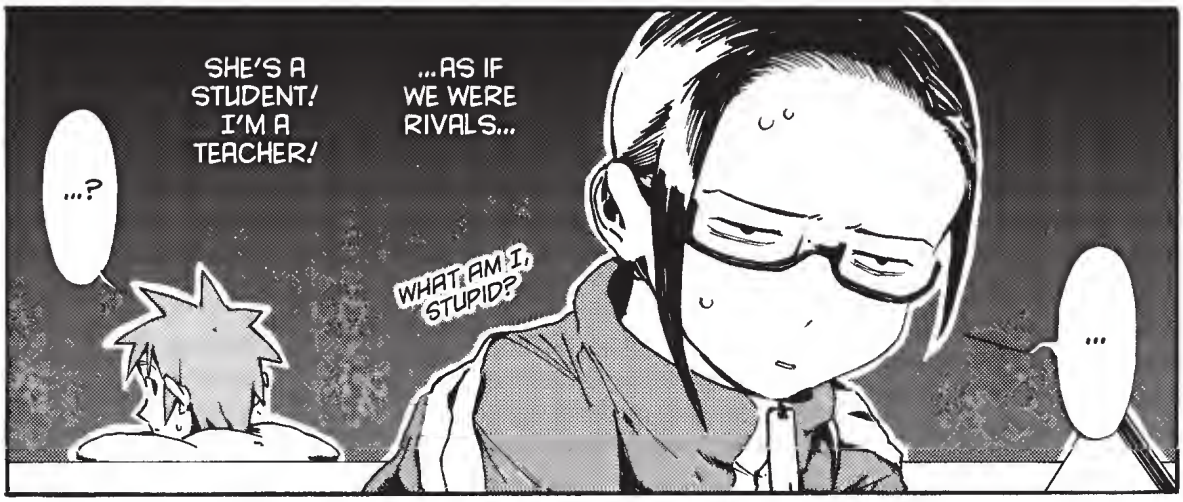
SATO-SENSEI...
THANKS FOR HELPING ME CARRY THAT.
NO PRO-BLEM,
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.
SATO-SENSEI...
SHE'S SO PRETTY, AND NICE... SHE JUST SEEMS SO GROWN-UP...
I KNOW YOUR HOMEROOM TEACHER CAN BE A LITTLE DENSE, MACHI-SAN.
ASKING A DULLAHAN TO CARRY A BOX ALL BY HERSELF!
HA HA...
I'M SURE SHE'S...
...BEEN IN LOVE...
...LOTS OF TIMES, TOO.

REFERENCE ROOM
IT LOOKS LIKE THIS BOOK BELONGS OVER THERE, TOO.
COULD YOU HANDLE IT?
S-SURE!
SATO-SENSEI...
HM?
ACTUALLY, I...WANTED TO TALK TO YOU...
...

OH, REALLY?
THAT'S GREAT!
ARE THEY A STUDENT AT OUR SCHOOL?
I...
WELL...
THERE'S SOMEONE I LIKE...
...?
I MEAN...IT IS SOMEONE AT OUR SCHOOL, JUST NOT...
N-NO...
I HAVE A CRUSH ON TAKAHASHI-SENSEI...
I HAVE A...

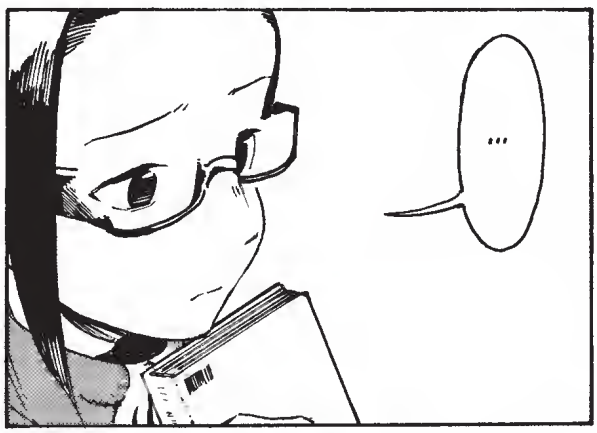
SO DO I.


SHE'S A STUDENT! I'M A TEACHER!
...AS IF WE WERE RIVALS...
...?
WHAT AM I, STUPID?
...

OH,
WELL,
I WAS THINKING...
S-SO, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK TO ME ABOUT...?
OH...OH, REALLY? COLOR ME SURPRISED...
AND I WANT TO BE MORE GROWN-UP, BUT...
...I DON'T QUITE KNOW HOW TO DO THAT.
...MAYBE I'M JUST...
I-I WANT TO BE A GOOD MATCH FOR TAKAHASHI-SENSEI...
...BUT I'M AFRAID...
...TOO CHILDISH.
I-IT'S HARD TO EXPLAIN...
YOU'RE JUST...
IN MY MIND, YOU SEEM LIKE THE PICTURE OF A COOL GROWN-UP WOMAN...
SO I WANTED TO TALK TO YOU...
WHY ME?

APPEARANCES CAN BE DECEIVING...
O-OH, DO I...?
A-AND YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE GOT *TONS* OF LOVE EXPERIENCE!
XP: 0

YOU KNOW, MACHI-SAN...
BEING GROWN-UP...
...ISN'T REALLY ALL IT'S CRACKED UP TO BE.
VWSH
?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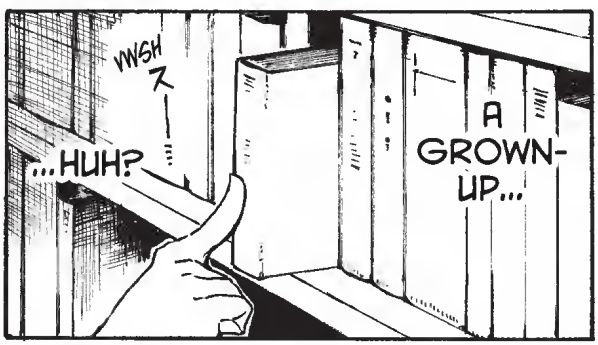

VWSH
...HUH?
A GROWN-UP...

TMP

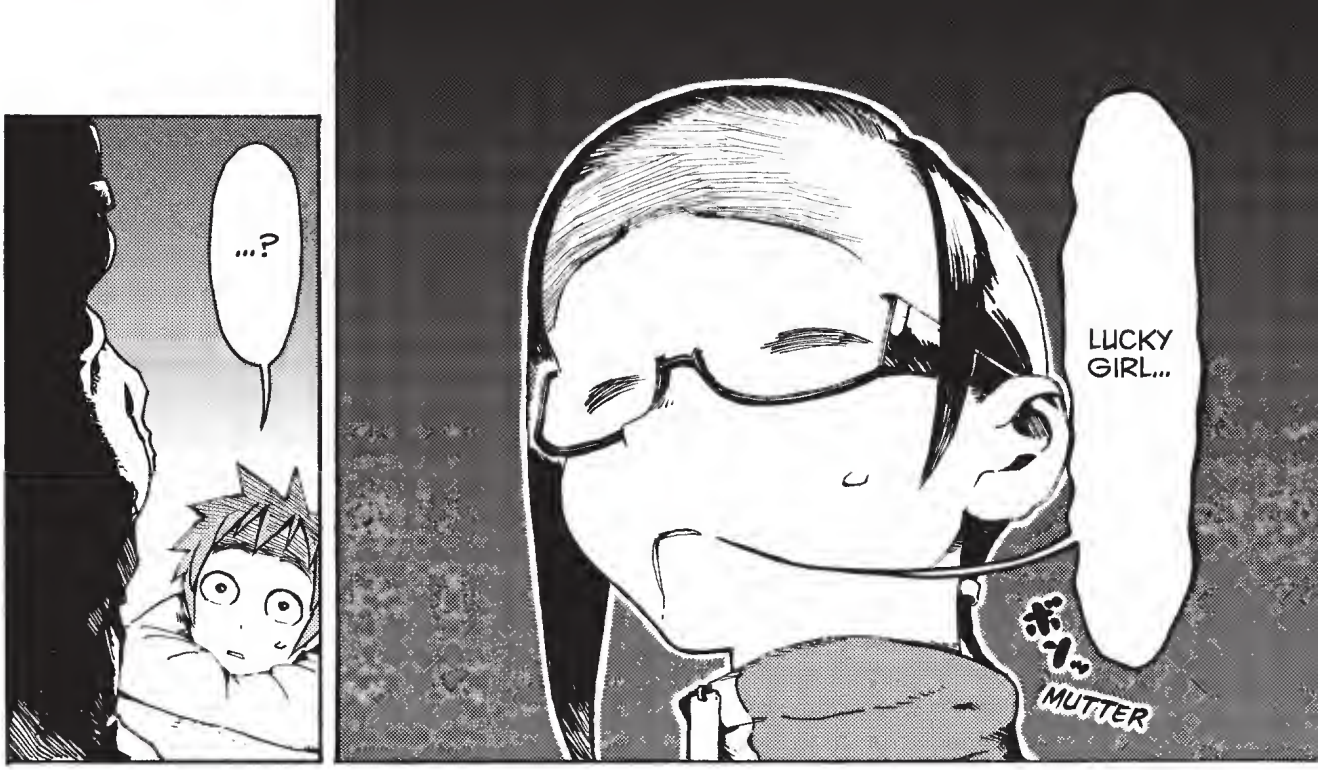
W-WHAT DO YOU MEAN...
...A FACADE?
...BUT WHAT LOOKS LIKE "BEING GROWN-UP" FROM A KID'S PERSPECTIVE...
...IS MOST-LY...
...A FACADE.
THMP
SORRY IF IT SOUNDS LIKE I'M TALKING DOWN TO YOU...
!
BUT PEOPLE IN MY LINE OF WORK, ESPECIALLY...
I GUESS THAT MAKES ADULTS SOUND AWFULLY VAIN.
...JUST WANT TO LOOK GOOD.
JUST THAT.
YOU WANT TO MAKE A GOOD IMPRESSION ON EVERY-ONE...
OR YOU WANT KIDS TO RESPECT YOU...
...SO YOU PUT UP A FRONT.

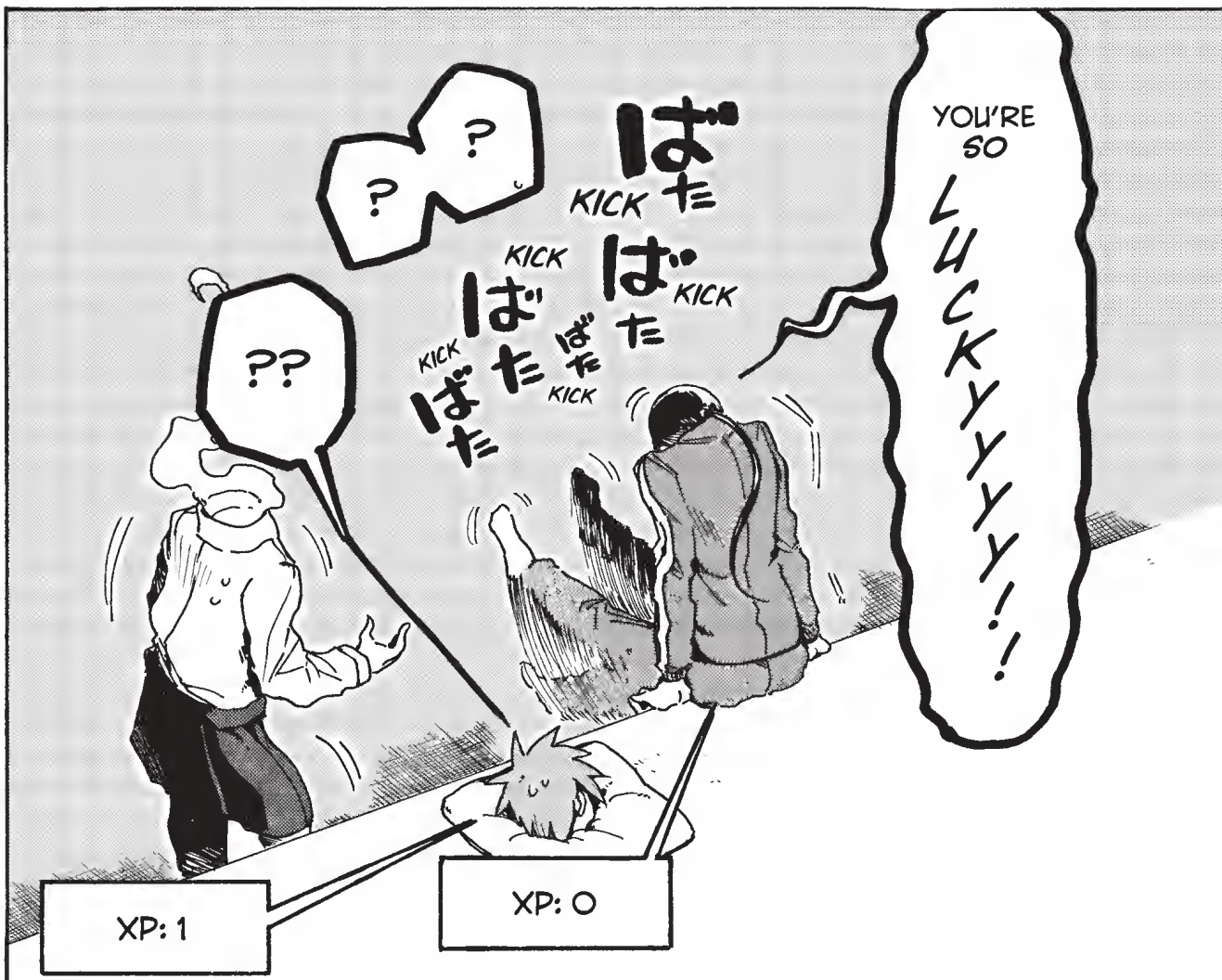
T-TAKAHASHI-SENSEI...
...TOO?
HMM, I WONDER...
YOU MEAN YOU'RE JUST PRETENDING, SATO-SENSEI?
YES. 100%.
NO NEED TO ACT TOO SERIOUS WITH A STUDENT...
BUT ONE THING I CAN TELL YOU...
...IS THAT EVEN TO ME, TAKAHASHI-SENSEI LOOKS...
...VERY GROWN-UP.
I WONDER...
TAKAHASHI-SENSEI AND I ARE BOTH "GROWN-UPS" IN THE STRICT SENSE...
ALTHOUGH OUR AGES ARE ABOUT AS FAR APART AS YOURS AND MINE.

I THINK HE'S GREAT.
HE'S COOL...
HE'S...
STAAA-AARE
...BUT NEVER PRIES SO MUCH HE HURTS ANYONE.
HE'S FRIENDLY WITH EVERYONE...
SOMEHOW RELIABLE, EVEN WHEN HE'S JOKING AROUND.
HE'S SO NATURAL.
R-RIGHT... THAT SOUNDS LIKE A GOOD IDEA...
...
BUT...
MY HAIR...
?
...SO WHY NOT START WITH THE OUTSIDE?
IT'S HARD TO BE AN ADULT ON THE INSIDE...
A-ANYWAY, THE POINT IS—
YOU KNOW, FASHION! HAIRSTYLE!

OH,
OF COURSE!
I'M SORRY, I WASN'T THINKING...
I CAN'T...
I CAN'T LET IT GROW LONG...
SLIP
BECAUSE IT GETS HARD TO HOLD...
I-IT'S OKAY.
I CAN'T GROW IT LONG, BUT I CAN STILL CHANGE THE STYLE.
?
WOW, GREAT IDEA!
I SEE.
I'M GLAD YOU'RE A DULLAHAN, THOUGH, MACHI.
B-BUT WHEN I ASKED TAKAHASHI-SENSEI ABOUT IT, HE SAID...

IT MEANS WE'VE GOT THE SAME HAIRSTYLE!
HA HA!
AND THAT JUST...
YOU KNOW?
...
I THOUGHT MAYBE I'D JUST KEEP THIS STYLE FOREVER...
SO I...
...MADE ME SO HAPPY.


...?
LUCKY GIRL...
ボソ～
MUTTER

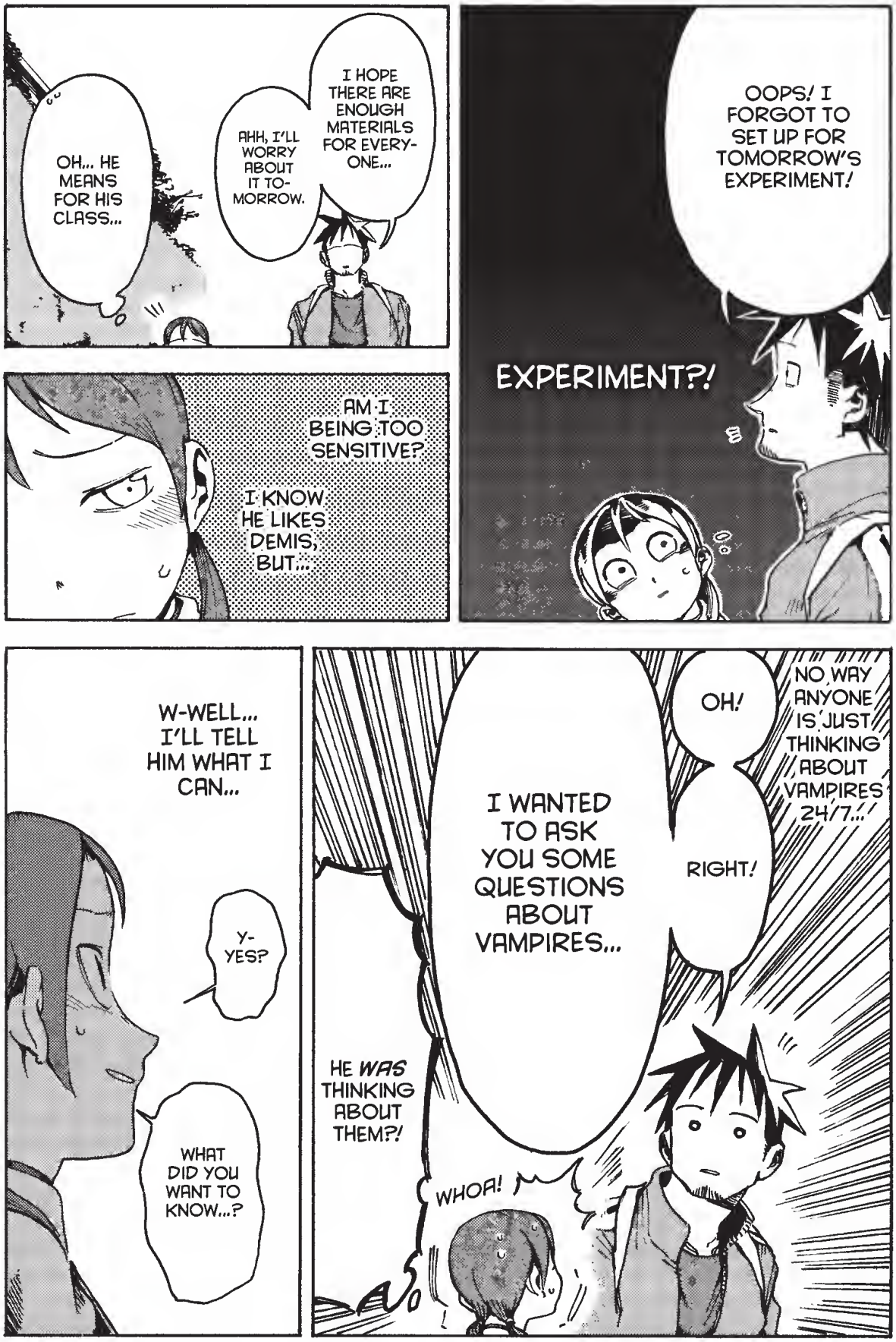

YOU'RE SO LUCKYYYY!!
ばた KICK
ばた KICK
ばた KICK
ばた KICK
ばた KICK
? ? ?
??
XP: 1
XP: 0

I-I'M JUST CURIOUS, MACHI-SAN... WHAT DREW YOU TO TAKAHASHI-SENSEI?
OH,
UM...
LIKE YOU SAID, SATO-SENSEI.
HOW HE'S...
...KIND...
...AND TRUST-WORTHY...
OH,
AND ...
HIS ARMS.
THEY'RE SO BUILT!
I KNOW !!

INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS

HUH?
OH.
...
LOOK WHO IT IS.
...
CAW
CAW
I THINK WE'RE GOING THE SAME WAY.
WANT TO WALK TOGETHER ...?
UH, SURE...
YES,
WELL...
I LIKE THE READING ROOM...
YOU'RE HERE LATER THAN I EXPEC-TED...
...EARLIER THAN I THOUGHT.
...SURE CAN GO HOME...
TEA-CHERS ...
OH,
UH,
YEAH.

...I DON'T TRUST TAKAHASHI-SENSEI.
NOT YET.
HEY, I HEAR YOU DID GREAT ON YOUR RECENT TEST, HIMARI-CHAN.
DO YOU ALWAYS STUDY IN THE READING ROOM?
OH, UH, THANK YOU.
Y-YEAH. THEN I READ SOME BOOKS TO REFRESH MYSELF...
THE TRUTH IS...
I APPRECIATE THAT HE'S KIND TO MY SISTER.
BUT SOMETIMES I WONDER.
...
IS IT JUST HIS INTEREST IN DEMIS?
DOES HE SEE HER AS A SUBJECT IN SOME EXPERIMENT?


I HOPE THERE ARE ENOUGH MATERIALS FOR EVERY-ONE...
AHH, I'LL WORRY ABOUT IT TO-MORROW.
OH... HE MEANS FOR HIS CLASS...
OOPS! I FORGOT TO SET UP FOR TOMORROW'S EXPERIMENT!
EXPERIMENT?!
AM I BEING TOO SENSITIVE?
I KNOW HE LIKES DEMIS, BUT...
NO WAY ANYONE IS JUST THINKING ABOUT VAMPIRES 24/7...!
OH!
I WANTED TO ASK YOU SOME QUESTIONS ABOUT VAMPIRES...
RIGHT!
HE WAS THINKING ABOUT THEM?!
WHOA!
W-WELL... I'LL TELL HIM WHAT I CAN...
Y-YES?
WHAT DID YOU WANT TO KNOW...?

UH... HUH.
HE'S OBSESSED!
HA HA HA!
IT SEEMS LIKE HIKARI WOULD EAT GARLIC ALL DAY AND ALL NIGHT IF YOU LET HER.
WELL, ONE OF THE MOST WELL-KNOWN "FACTS" ABOUT VAMPIRES IS THAT THEY HATE GARLIC...
RIGHT ...
...AND I'VE BEEN THINKING, MAYBE THAT ISN'T QUITE RIGHT.
MY CLUE WAS VAMPIRES' TENDENCY TO ATTACK PEOPLE WHO ARE LOST AT NIGHT.
WHY WOULD THEY ATTACK PEOPLE AT NIGHT?
HUH...
SOME OF THE LITERATURE SUGGEST VAMPIRES HAVE HEIGHTENED SENSES.
I THINK THAT'S THE REASON.
TRUE, BUT THAT WOULD LEAVE THEM ABOUT EVEN WITH THEIR PREY.
...BECAUSE THEY HATE SUNLIGHT?
THEY WOULDN'T BE SCARY ENOUGH TO WARRANT CARRYING CROSSES.

...THEIR EXCELLENT SENSE OF SMELL.
RIGHT.
THE POINT IS...
...!
THEIR EXCEPTIONAL NOSES CAUSE THEM TO DISLIKE FOODS WITH A STRONG ODOR.
I BELIEVE THAT'S THE SOURCE OF THE LEGEND THAT VAMPIRES HATE GARLIC!
THEIR EARS CAN TRACK A PERSON.
NIGHT LOOKS LIKE DAY TO THEM.
THEIR NOSES PICK UP THE SCENT OF BLOOD.
MORE THAN ENOUGH TO STAY ONE STEP AHEAD OF A HUMAN IN THE DARK...
AND WHAT DO SHARP SENSES HAVE TO DO...
.....
...WITH GARLIC?
DOES HIKARI SEEM TO HAVE EXCEPT-IONAL SENSES?
...
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
ANYWAY, THAT'S MY CONCLUSION.

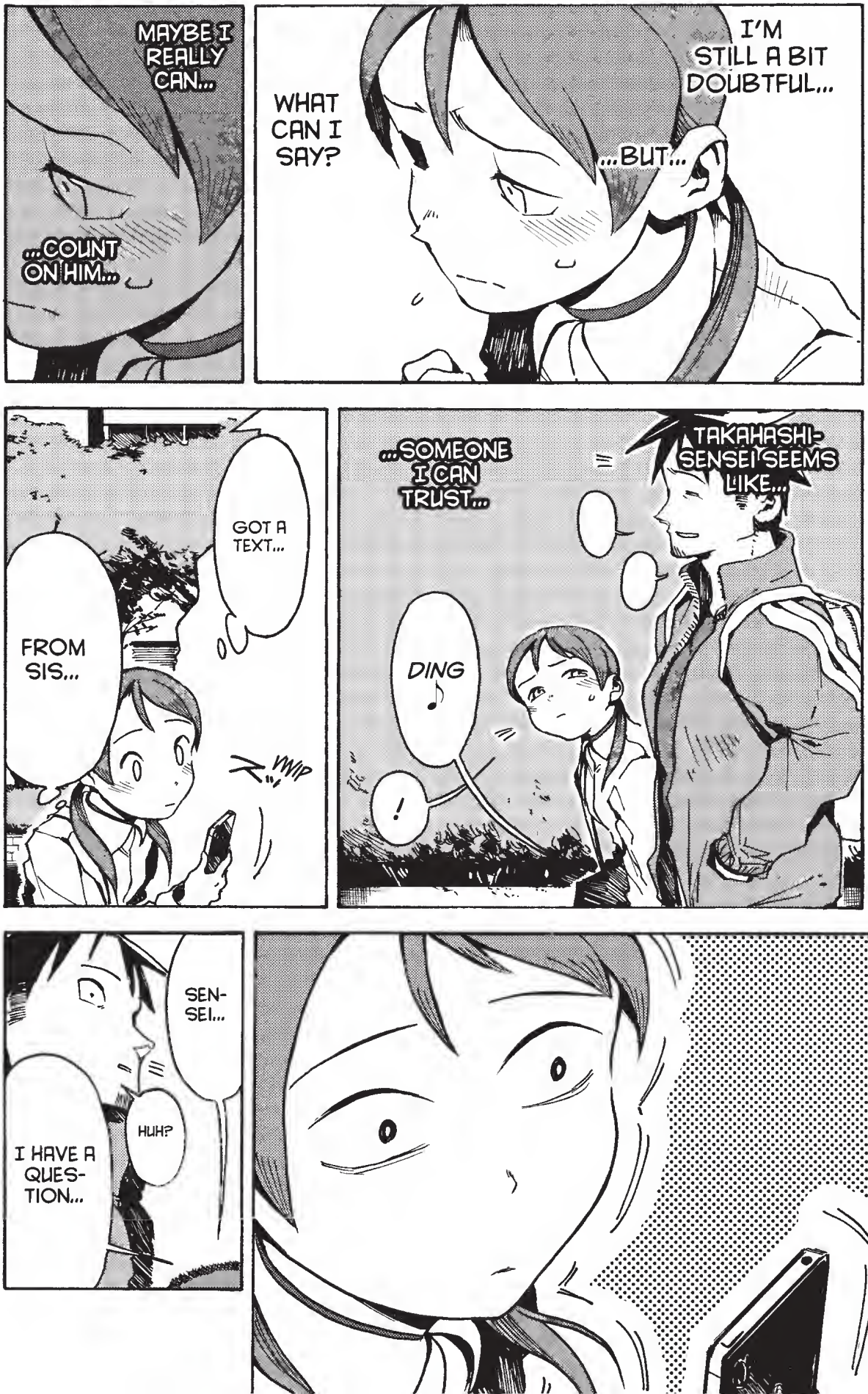
HER PALATE'S... A LITTLE TOO WIDE.
SO WHY IS HIKARI SO KEEN ON GARLIC?
HER SENSES ARE GREAT.
I THINK YOU'RE EXACTLY RIGHT.
...YES.
OH!
COOL!
I WANTED TO MAKE SURE SHE WASN'T FORCING HERSELF TO EAT IT.
...AND I GOT WORRIED.
ONCE SHE WAS EATING SOMETHING REALLY SMELLY...
NO WORRIES!
Y-YOU WOULDN'T WANT TO ADVERTISE THAT...
FOR SURE...
HMMM...
I...
...LOVE THE STINKY STUFF!

THAT SHE'S PRETTY MUCH LIKE A NORMAL SCHOOL-GIRL.
...HIKARI'S NOT VERY VAMPIRE-LIKE.
A LOT OF PEOPLE TELL ME...
...
YOU KNOW...
ON THAT NOTE...
...IN HER HUMANITY?
OR ARE YOU NOT THAT INTEREST-ED...
...
HUH.
GOOD QUES-TION.
ガリガリ
SCRATCH SCRATCH
...
IS MY SISTER REALLY MUCH OF A VAMPIRE?
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK?
YOU SEEM VERY INTERESTED IN THE WAY DEMIS ARE, TAKAHASHI-SENSEI.

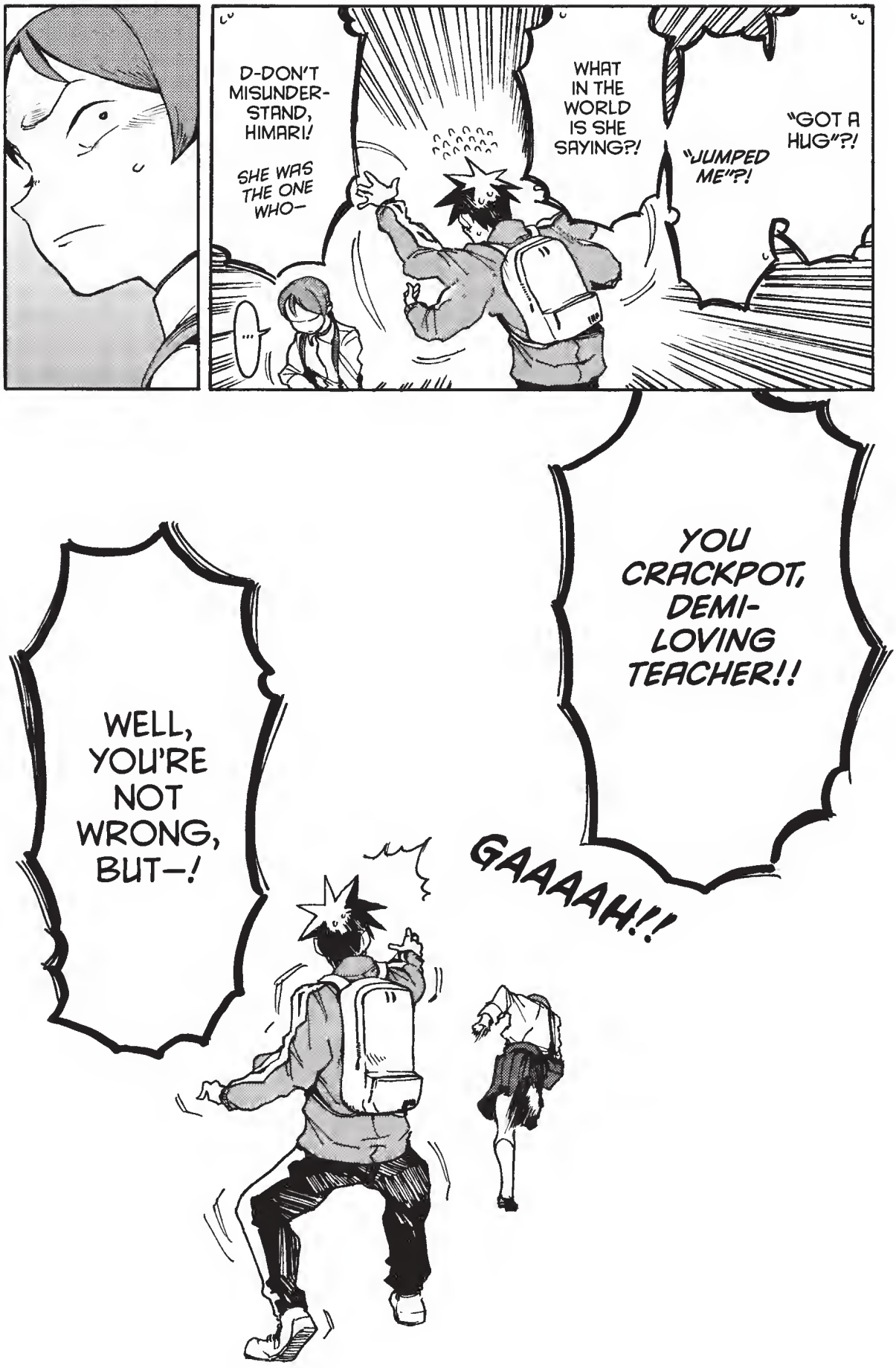
IT'S TRUE HIKARI...
...DOESN'T BEHAVE THE WAY YOU'D EXPECT OF A VAMPIRE.
BUT DOES THAT MAKE HER "NOT VERY VAMPIRE-LIKE"?
I DON'T THINK SO.
!
HIKARI WANTS TO DRINK BLOOD FROM PEOPLE, BUT MAKES DO WITH THE BLOOD PACKS.
SHE HAS A VAMPIRE'S NOSE, BUT STILL ENJOYS STRONG-SMELLING FOOD.
...

THAT'S WHAT MAKES HER WHO SHE IS. SHE'S A VAMPIRE, YES, BUT ALSO A UNIQUE PERSON.
WE AREN'T BORN "LIKE" SOMETHING. WE TAKE WHAT WE'RE BORN WITH, AND LIVE OUR LIVES.

...
WE HAVE TO REMEMBER THAT EVERYONE IS DIFFERENT... BUT WE CAN'T TURN THAT INTO AN EXCUSE FOR NOT TRYING TO UNDERSTAND WHAT DEMIS ARE.
BECAUSE SO MANY OF DEMIS' PARTICULAR CONCERNS ARE BASED ON WHO AND WHAT THEY ARE.
THERE'S NEVER JUST ONE WAY OF SEEING THINGS.
WE NEED MORE PERSPEC-TIVES.
IF WE FOCUS ON "DEMI-HOOD," WE LOSE SIGHT OF THE INDIVIDUAL.
BUT IF WE SEE ONLY THEIR UNIQUENESS, WE WON'T REACH THE ROOTS OF THEIR WORRIES.
BOTH ARE CRUCIAL.
AND WE HAVE TO STRIKE A BALANCE.
THAT'S WHAT I THINK, ANYWAY.
...
!!
GULP


MAYBE I REALLY CAN...
...COUNT ON HIM...
WHAT CAN I SAY?
I'M STILL A BIT DOUBTFUL...
...BUT...
GOT A TEXT...
FROM SIS...
...SOMEONE I CAN TRUST...
TAKAHASHI-SENSEI SEEMS LIKE...
DING
!
SEN-SEI...
HUH?
I HAVE A QUES-TION...

GOT A HUG FROM SENSEI TODAY! HE TOTALLY JUMPED ME!
WAS IT ABOUT HER "VAMPIRE NATURE"?
OR ABOUT HER "INDIVIDUAL NATURE"?
JUST WHAT DID YOU HOPE TO LEARN ABOUT MY SISTER BY GIVING HER A HUG?


D-DON'T MISUNDER-STAND, HIMARI!
SHE WAS THE ONE WHO—
...
WHAT IN THE WORLD IS SHE SAYING?!
"JUMPED ME"?!
"GOT A HUG"?!
YOU CRACKPOT, DEMI-LOVING TEACHER!!
WELL, YOU'RE NOT WRONG, BUT—!
GAAAAH!!

WHY SEND A TEXT I WOULD TAKE THE WRONG WAY?
SO?
LATER, SHE GOT THE TRUTH.
SORRY ...
SIGH
I THOUGHT THAT TEXT MIGHT...
...GET YOU HOME QUICKER.
WHO KNEW YOU WERE WITH HIM, RIGHT THEN?
I WAS BORED HERE...
YOU'VE BEEN OUT SO LATE THESE DAYS, HIMARI.
...
YOU WILL ?!
YOU'RE THE BEST, HIMARI!
YOU COULD JUST TEXT ME "COME HOME SOON." I'LL LISTEN, YOU KNOW.

INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS

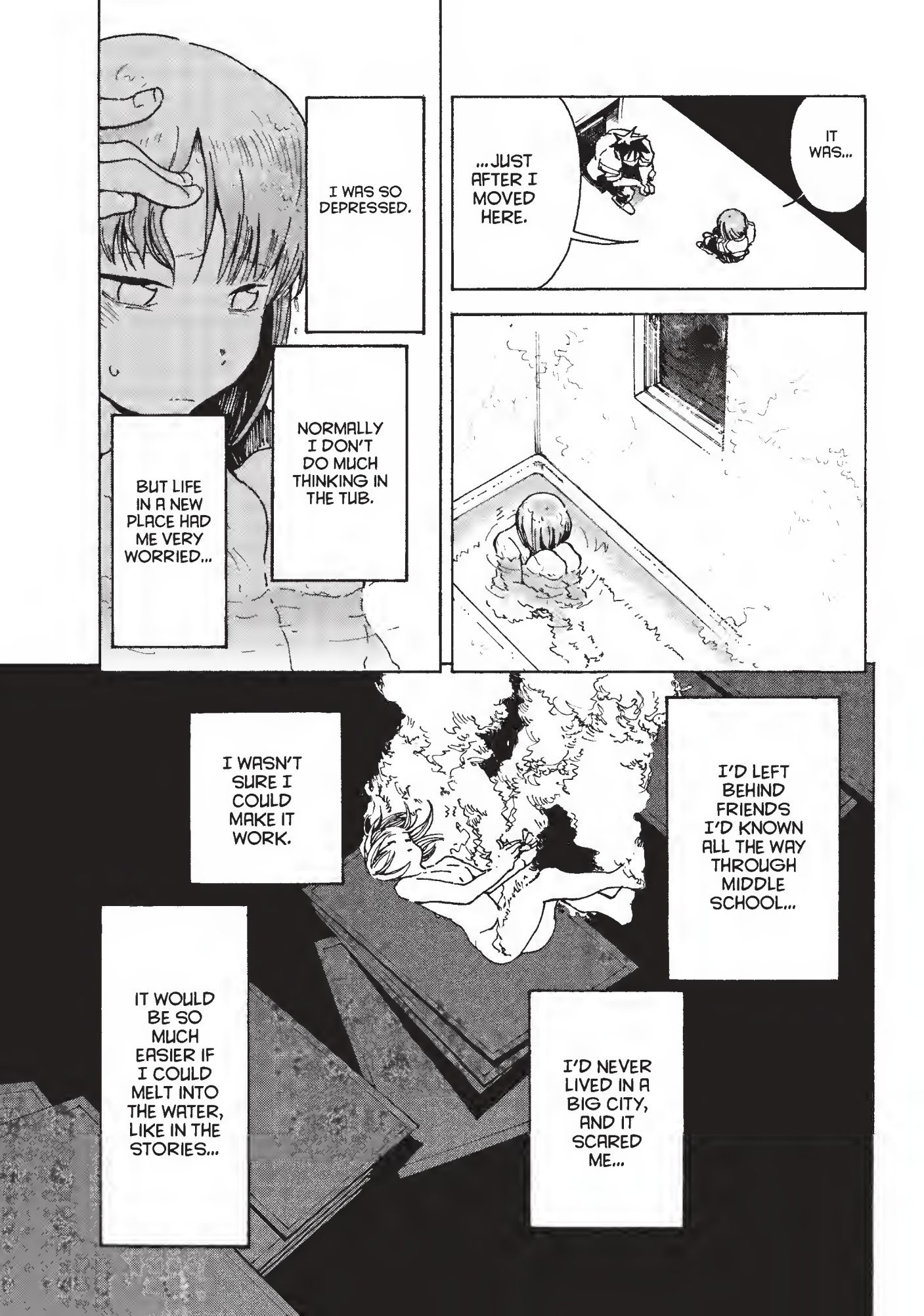
I DECIDED TO HIDE THAT I WAS A SNOW WOMAN WHEN I GOT TO HIGH SCHOOL.
MAYBE THEN PEOPLE WOULDN'T COME UP TO ME JUST TO SEE A DEMI UP CLOSE.
MAYBE NO ONE WOULD GET HURT BECAUSE OF WHAT I WAS.
BUT THEN, ONE DAY IN APRIL...
...THE HEAT GOT THE BETTER OF ME DURING GYM...
Y-YOU ALL RIGHT, KUSAKABE?
ERK
HE WAS GOING TO TOUCH ME, AND I JUST BLURTED IT OUT—

Chapter 12: Snow Women Are Cold (Part 1)

IF I...
...COOL DOWN, I'LL BE FINE.
I'M...
...A SNOW WOMAN...
...!!
...
...
LATER, I COLLAPSED.
...!!
THEY CARRIED ME ON A STRETCHER...

...
...
DID YOU...
...ALWAYS HIDE...
!
...
...
...THE FACT YOU'RE A SNOW WOMAN?
EVEN BEFORE HIGH SCHOOL?
N-NO!
I NEVER HID IT BEFORE...
AT ALL...

UNTIL HIGH SCHOOL, I LIVED IN A RURAL AREA THAT GOT A LOT OF SNOW.
I NEVER QUESTIONED WHAT IT MEANT TO BE A SNOW WOMAN.
I HAD A BELOW-AVERAGE BODY TEMPER-ATURE...
...AND SOMETIMES MY BREATH FOGGED OR I CRIED ICE CRYSTALS...
...BUT THAT WAS IT. IT DIDN'T AFFECT ANYONE ELSE.
...
SO...
...
...SOME-THING...
...HAPP-ENED.
...AFTER YOU MOVED HERE, BUT BEFORE YOU STARTED HIGH SCHOOL...
...
Y-
YES.
SOME-THING...
LIKE...
THAT.


I WAS SO DEPRESSED.
NORMALLY I DON'T DO MUCH THINKING IN THE TUB.
BUT LIFE IN A NEW PLACE HAD ME VERY WORRIED...
...JUST AFTER I MOVED HERE.
IT WAS...
I WASN'T SURE I COULD MAKE IT WORK.
I'D LEFT BEHIND FRIENDS I'D KNOWN ALL THE WAY THROUGH MIDDLE SCHOOL...
IT WOULD BE SO MUCH EASIER IF I COULD MELT INTO THE WATER, LIKE IN THE STORIES...
I'D NEVER LIVED IN A BIG CITY, AND IT SCARED ME...

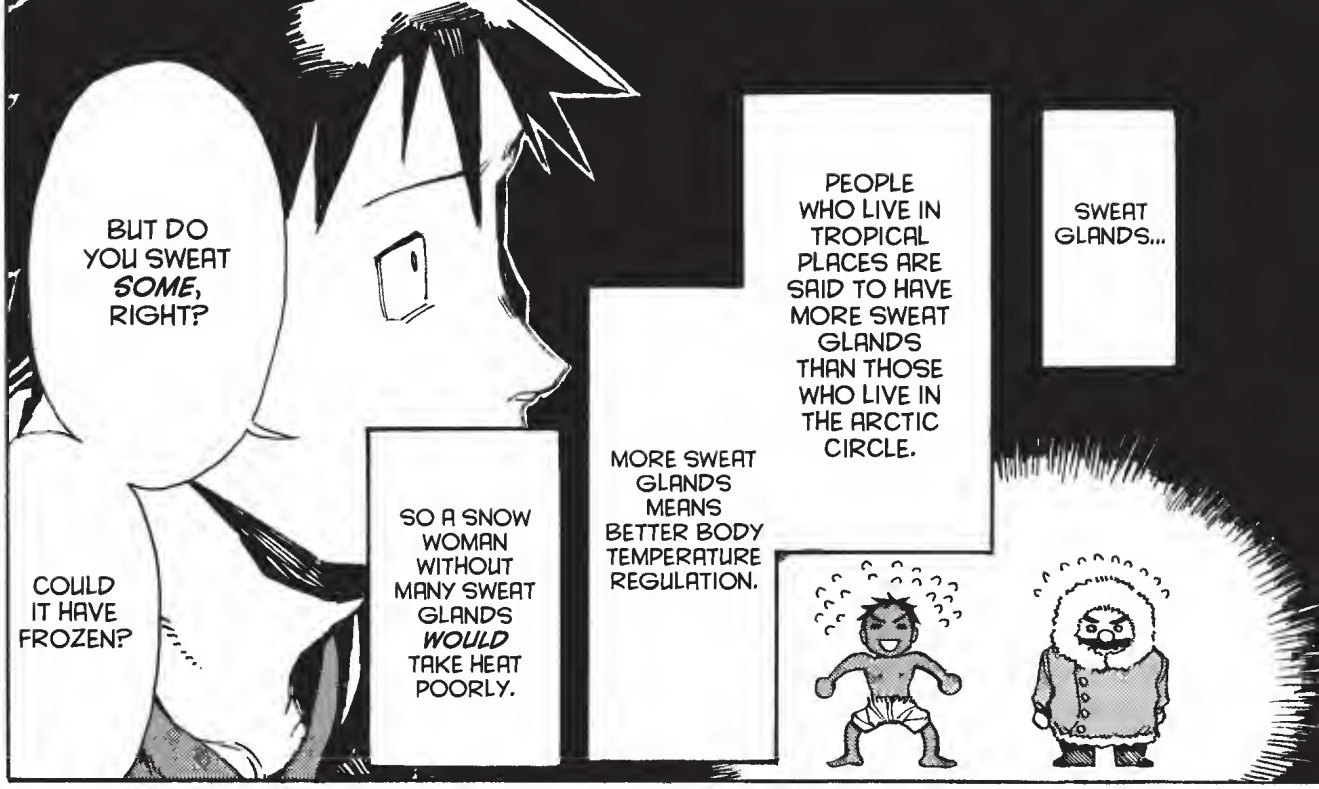
?
RIGHT THEN, I NOTICED SOMETHING STRANGE.
HUH...?
ICE...
...IN THE BATHTUB?
I WAS SHOCKED.
THE ICE MELTED RIGHT AWAY...
...BUT I REALIZED I COULD FREEZE A HOT BATH WITH MY CHILL.
AND THAT WAS TERRIFYING.

...AS I STARTED HIGH SCHOOL.
...WHAT WAS ON MY MIND...
THAT'S ...
GAAAAHH!!
WHAT IF THAT ABILITY WERE TURNED...
HI-YAH!
...ON A HUMAN BEING?
I THOUGHT, MAYBE IF I DON'T TOUCH ANYONE, IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT...
SO I OPENLY AVOIDED PEOPLE.
BUT...
...
I...
BE PROUD...
...
SHE'S A SNOW WOMAN...
I'M SCARED! I DON'T KNOW HOW DANGEROUS I REALLY AM...
IF I DID, I COULD LET PEOPLE KNOW.
AND THEN I COULD BE PROUD TO TELL THEM, "I'M A SNOW WOMAN"...

NO,
WAIT...
WHAT?
KUSAKABE, HOW DO YOU NORMALLY BATHE?
UMM...
SLIDE
I MEAN, DO YOU USE THE SAME TEMPERATURE AS THE REST OF YOUR FAMILY?
CREAK
HMM...
SO...
...SHE FROZE THE BATH WATER, HUH?
...NO, I DON'T THINK SO...
...WAS THE WATER COLDER THAN USUAL?
AFTER YOU USED THE BATH THAT DAY...
CREAK
?
HUH...
OH... I HEAT THE WATER TO MAYBE 40 DEGREES...
MY WHOLE FAMILY DOES.
BUT THEY DO SAY I DON'T BATHE FOR VERY LONG. I GET HOT SO EASILY...
HMM...
...PRODUCE ICE WITHOUT LOWERING THE WATER TEMPERATURE?
IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE?
HMMM... COULD THE CHILL FROM HER BODY...

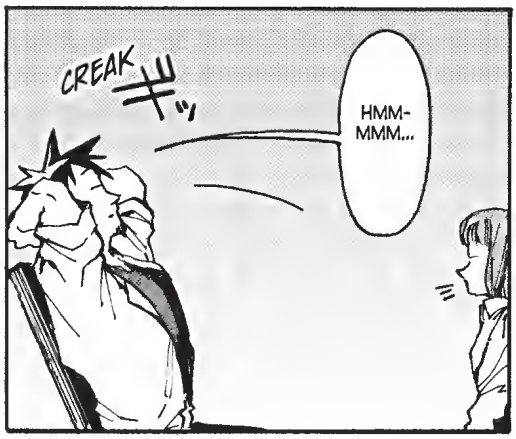
NOTE: 40 DEGREES CELSIUS = 104 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT.

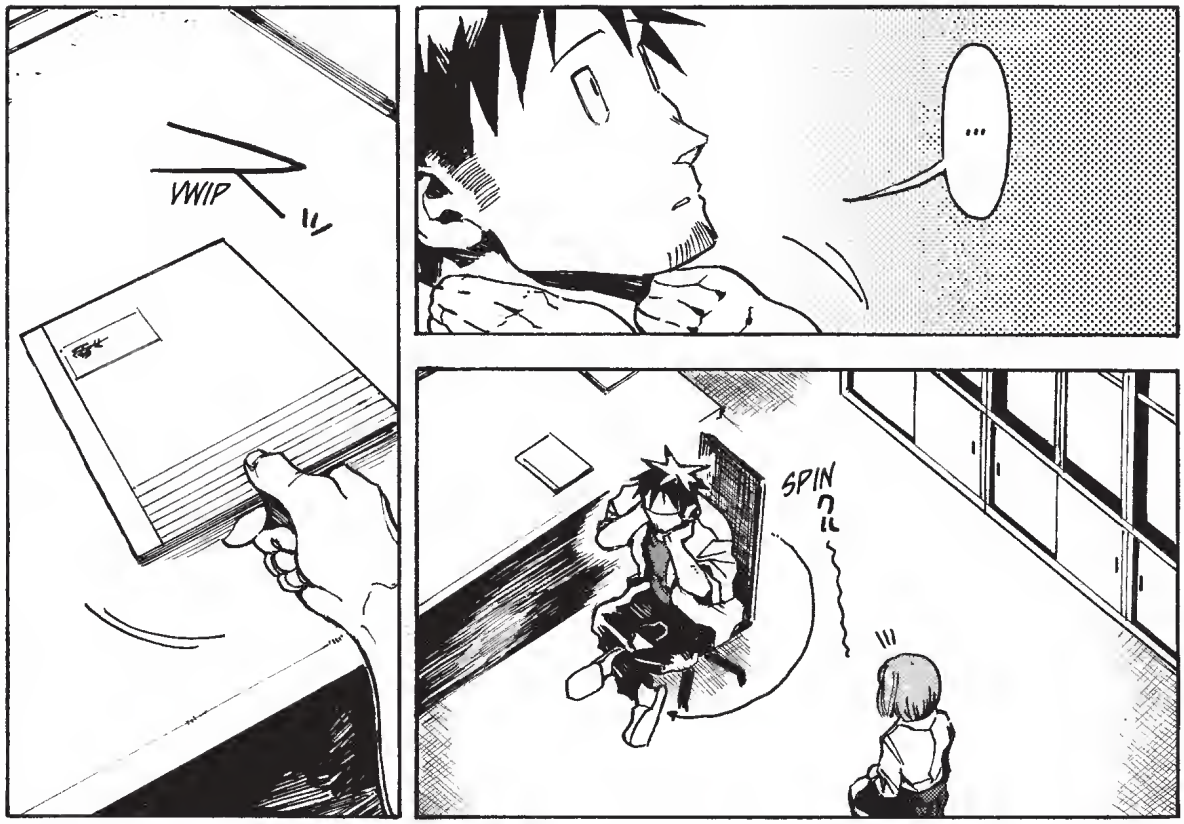
MAYBE THAT FROZE IN THE WATER.
SWEAT.
WERE YOU SWEATING?
WHAT ELSE MIGHT FREEZE...?
SWEAT...?
HRRRRM...
COULD SHE HAVE WEPT ICE TEARS INTO THE WATER?
NO...
IF SHE'D BEEN CRYING THEN, SHE WOULD'VE SUGGESTED THE POSSIBILITY HERSELF.
REALLY ?
ACTUALLY ...
...I DON'T SWEAT VERY MUCH.
WELL...
YEAH... THE VESSELS THAT PRODUCE SWEAT.
MY, UM... SWEAT GLANDS, IS THAT WHAT THEY'RE CALLED?
I SWEAT LESS THAN OTHER PEOPLE, AND MY...
YES. HARDLY AT ALL, IN FACT.
YES...
I HAVE VERY FEW OF THEM.


SWEAT GLANDS...
PEOPLE WHO LIVE IN TROPICAL PLACES ARE SAID TO HAVE MORE SWEAT GLANDS THAN THOSE WHO LIVE IN THE ARCTIC CIRCLE.
MORE SWEAT GLANDS MEANS BETTER BODY TEMPERATURE REGULATION.
SO A SNOW WOMAN WITHOUT MANY SWEAT GLANDS *WOULD* TAKE HEAT POORLY.
BUT DO YOU SWEAT *SOME*, RIGHT?
COULD IT HAVE FROZEN?

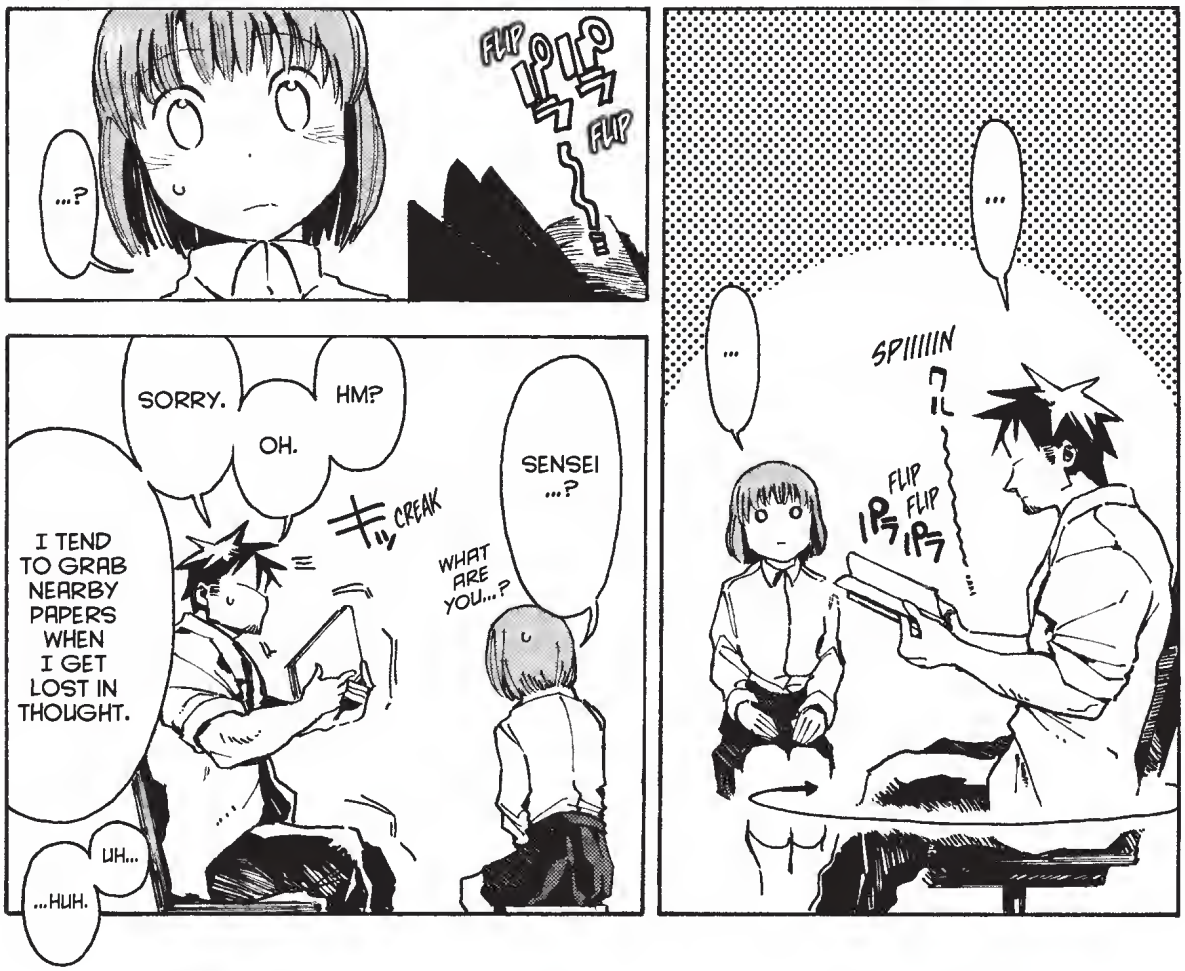
GOOD POINT...
HER TEARS ARE *ALWAYS* ICE?
HM...
THAT CAN'T BE EASY.

IT'S TRUE...
I DO SWEAT A LITTLE.
BUT IT'S NEVER FROZEN BEFORE.
WHY JUST THAT ONE TIME?
WHEN I CRY, MY TEARS ARE ALWAYS ICE...

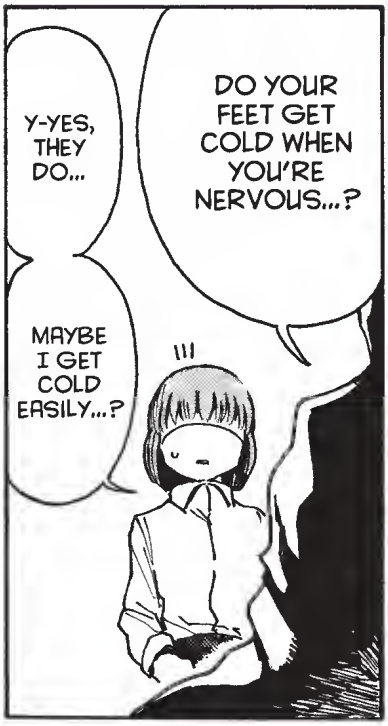

CREAK
HMM-MMM...



BOOK: *SNOW WOMEN*

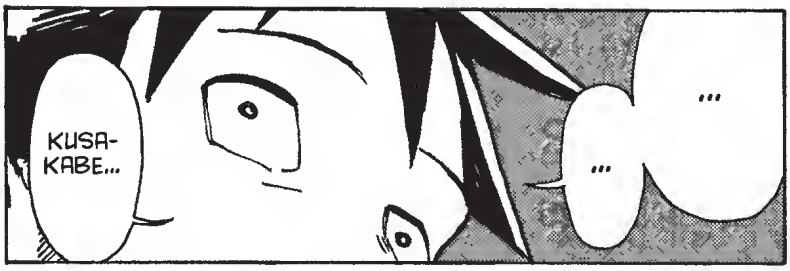


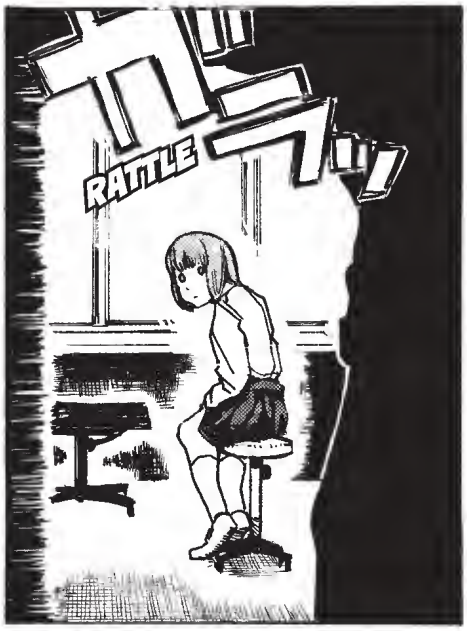
SHE'S A BEAUTIFUL WOMAN IN WHITE WITH LONG HAIR.
THOUGH SOMETIMES SHE'S AN OLD WOMAN...
THEY ALL TELL ROUGHLY THE SAME STORY...
THIS IS MY COLLECTED RESEARCH ON SNOW WOMEN LEGENDS.
I'VE BEEN COLLECTING THEM FROM BOOKS AND WEB SITES AND THE LIKE.
AND THE PLOTS FOLLOW SIMILAR ARCS.
USUALLY, THE SNOW WOMAN APPROACHES A MAN WITHOUT REVEALING WHAT SHE IS.
THEN, (1) THE MAN REFUSES A REQUEST OF HERS, SO SHE DOES SOMETHING AWFUL TO HIM...
POW
1.
2.
...OR (2) SHE BECOMES CLOSE TO HIM, BUT SOME ACCIDENT DRIVES HER TO VANISH.
THERE ARE REGIONAL DISAGREEMENTS ABOUT WHETHER SHE'S A GHOST OR A FAIRY...
...BUT THEY'RE MINOR.
...
OH
SOR...
...IS THAT THEY'RE ALWAYS TRAGIC.
IT'S STRANGE. THE ONE THING THE STORIES HAVE IN COMMON...

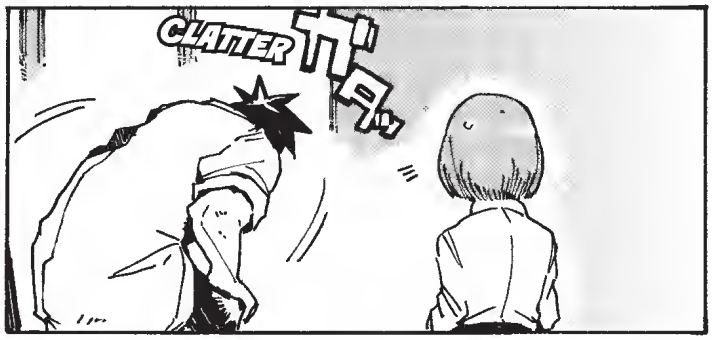

DO YOUR FEET GET COLD WHEN YOU'RE NERVOUS...?
Y-YES, THEY DO...
MAYBE I GET COLD EASILY...?

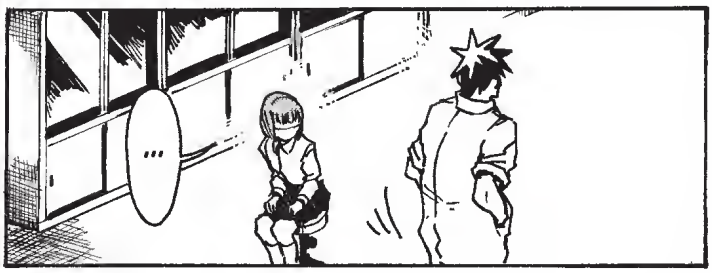
!!!

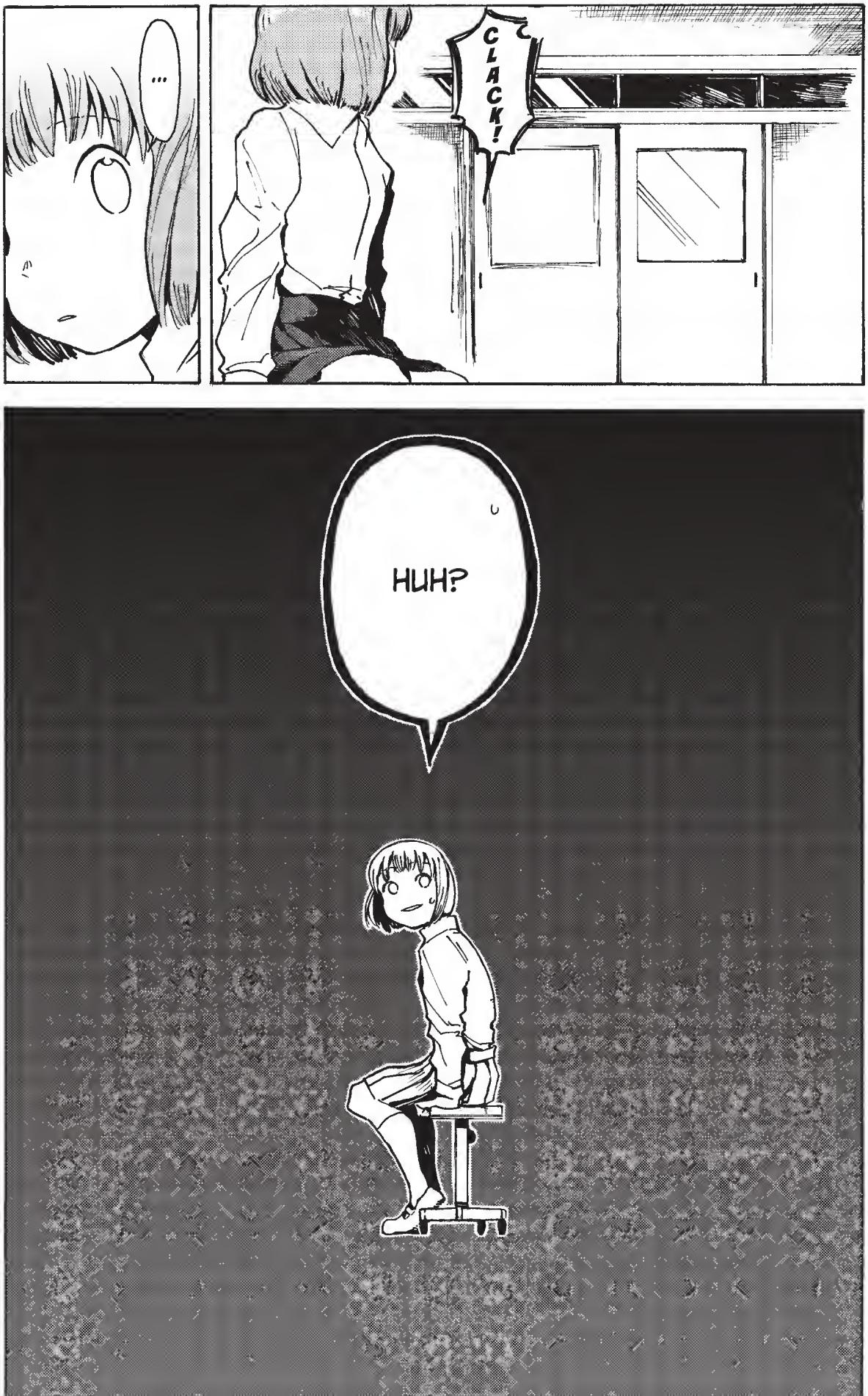
I...
SEE...


KUSA-KABE...
...
...


RATTLE ガラ


CLATTER ガタッ


...


...
CLACK!
HUH?

Goodnight Dullahan

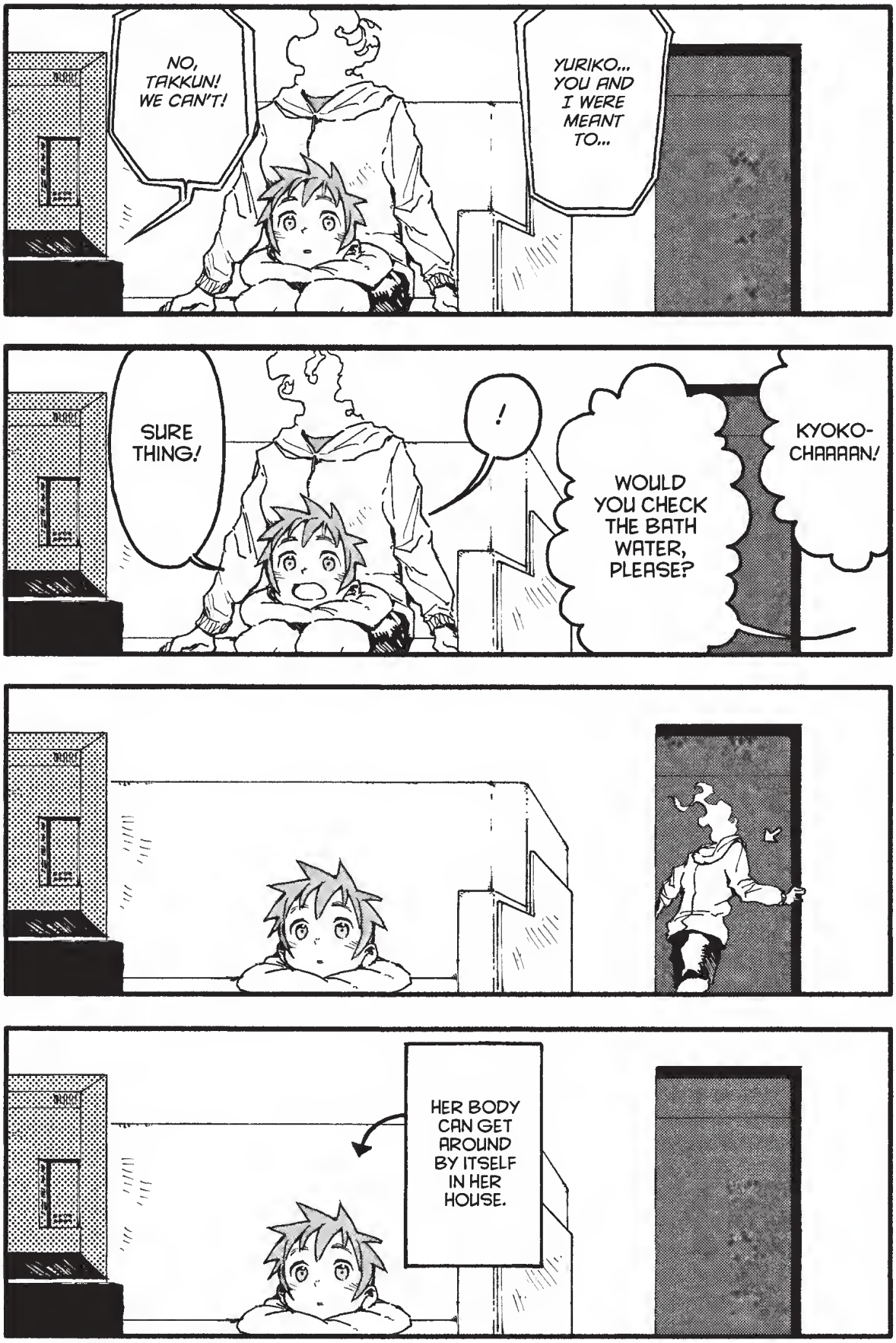
デュラハンちゃんは眠りたい

Goodnight Dullahan

Z
Z
z

Kyoko Machi
Class 1-B
Dullahan

·A demi from Irish myth, whose head and body are separate.
·Likes her head to be held.
·In love with Takahashi-sensei!

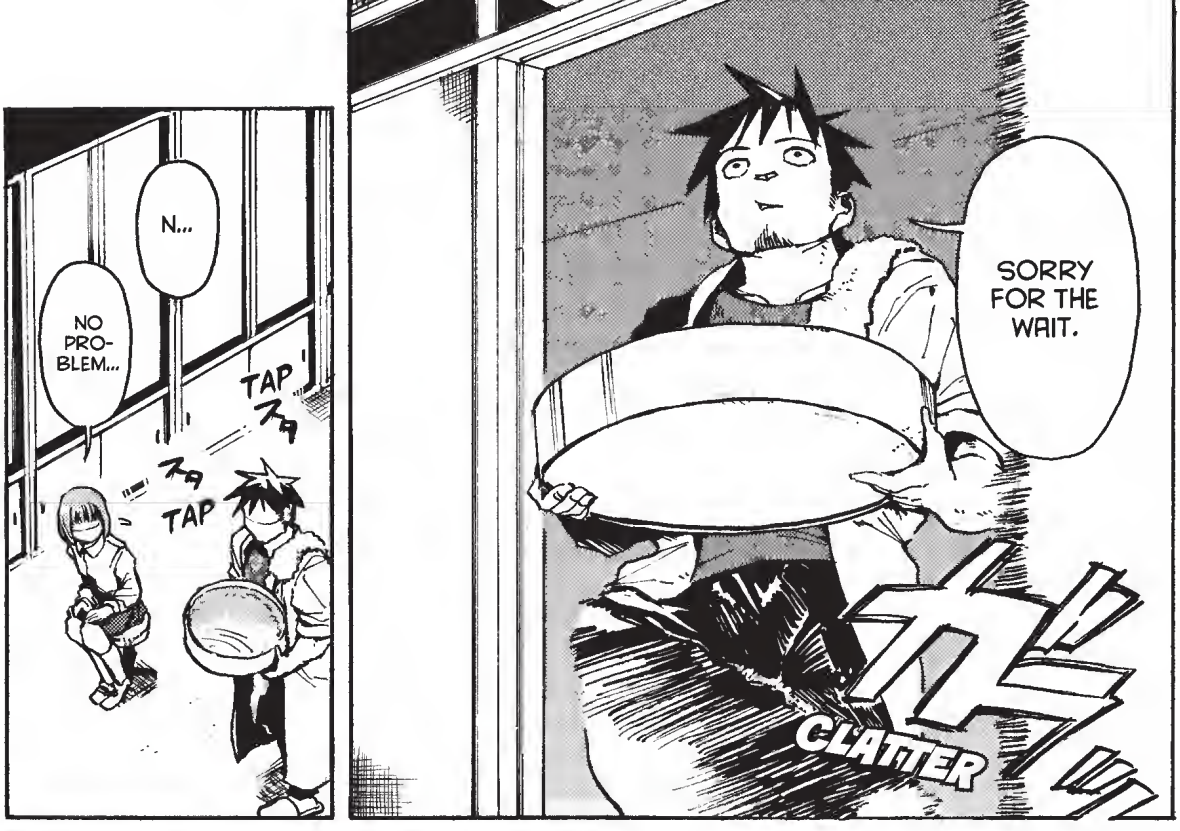

NO, TAKKUN! WE CAN'T!
YURIKO... YOU AND I WERE MEANT TO...
SURE THING!
!
WOULD YOU CHECK THE BATH WATER, PLEASE?
KYOKO-CHAAAAN!
HER BODY CAN GET AROUND BY ITSELF IN HER HOUSE.

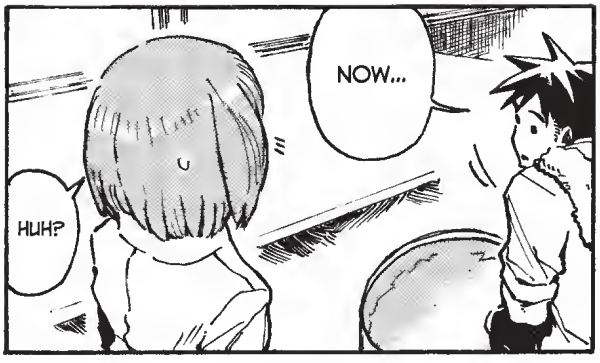
THAT FEELS GREAT...
AHHHH...
MMMM!
IN THE BATH
SCRUB
SCRUB
SCRUB
ANY TICKLISH SPOTS, MA'AM?
OH HO HO...
JUST KIDDING.

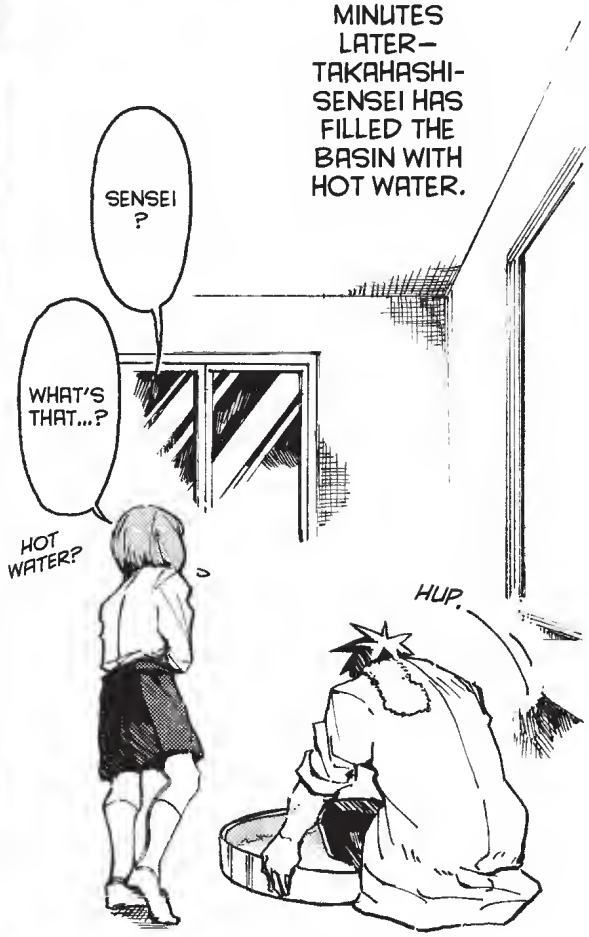
PILLOW
TOWEL
SMALL DOG HOUSE FOR BED
WHAT A NICE DAY... I'LL JUST DRIFT OFF...
...
FOOO...
G'NIGHT...

CLASSES HAVE ONLY...
...GOTTEN TOUGHER IN HIGH SCHOOL...
GOTTA...
STUDY ...
...
GOTTA ...
STUDY ...
REVIEW ...
I MIGHT BE...
...
IN...
...OVER MY HEAD...
AND EXERCISE ...
BLINK
ぱちっ
がばぁ!!
WHUMPH!
PHONE
TAP TAP
FOOOO...

NEW MEMO (1)
I'M IN OVER
MY HEAD
USE WHEN
VERY BUSY
TAP...
...YOU CAN SHOW WHAT IS AND ISN'T OKAY TO JOKE ABOUT...
IF YOU WANT YOUR FRIENDS TO BE WILLING TO HAVE A LITTLE FUN...
...
SHE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO THE WEEK AHEAD.
WOULD YOU LAUGH AT THIS JOKE...?
SENSEI ...





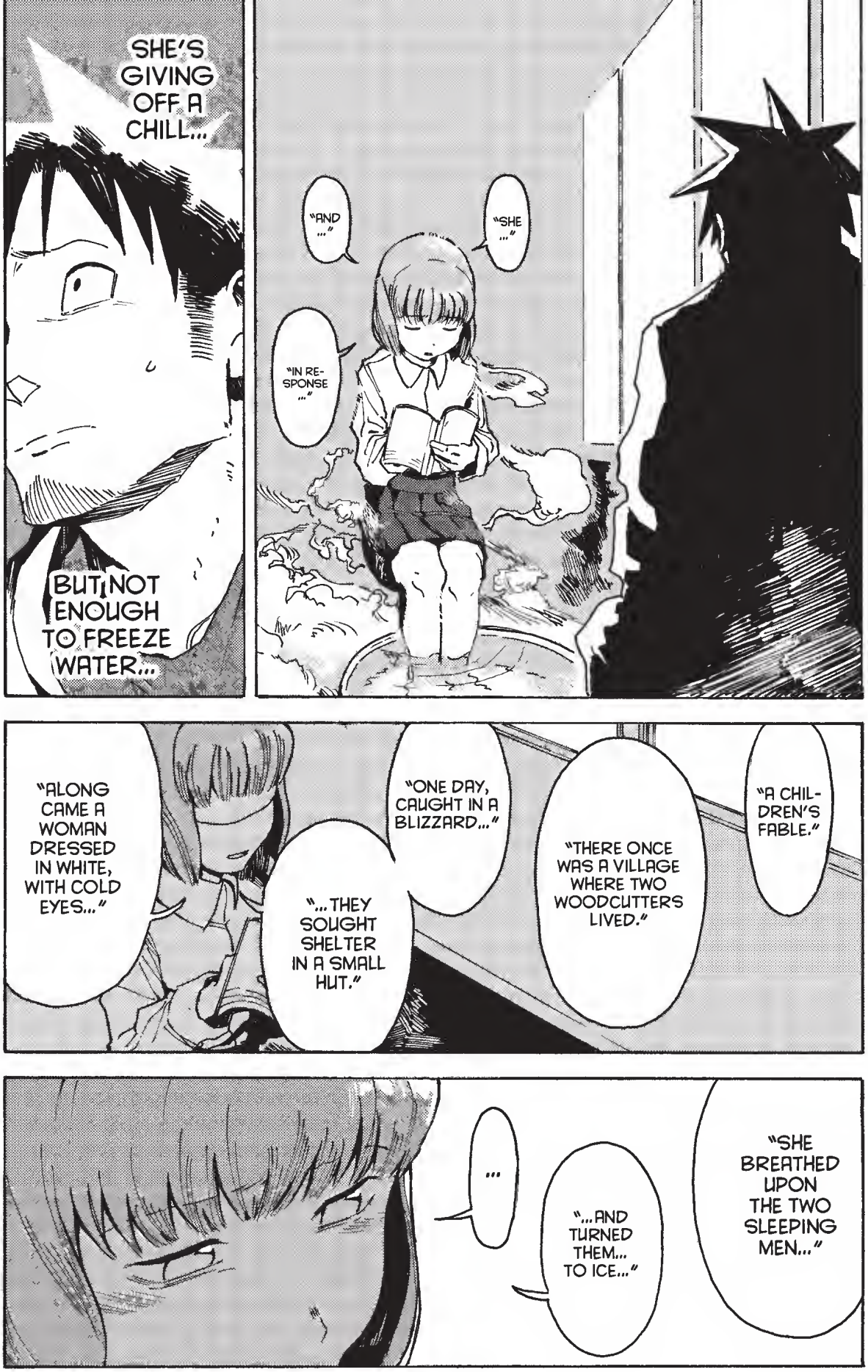


Chapter 13: Snow Women Are Cold (Part 2)

FINE...
HOW'S THE TEMPER-ATURE?
チャポン...
SPLISH...

...READ THIS ALOUD FOR ME?
COULD YOU...
R-READ IT...?
VWIP
UM...
WHY ARE WE...?
NOW,
HERE.
RUSTLE
FROM EARLIER...
THESE ARE YOUR NOTES...
...ON SNOW WOMAN STORIES...
...
ALL RIGHT.
AHEM...
...REALLY NECESS-ARY?
IS THIS...
THE ONE THING THE STORIES HAVE IN COMMON...
...IS THAT THEY'RE ALWAYS TRAGIC.
...
...BUT I WANT YOU TO REALLY THINK ABOUT THEM WHILE YOU READ...
I KNOW IT MUST BE VERY PAINFUL FOR YOU...
YES.
IT'S IMPOR-TANT.

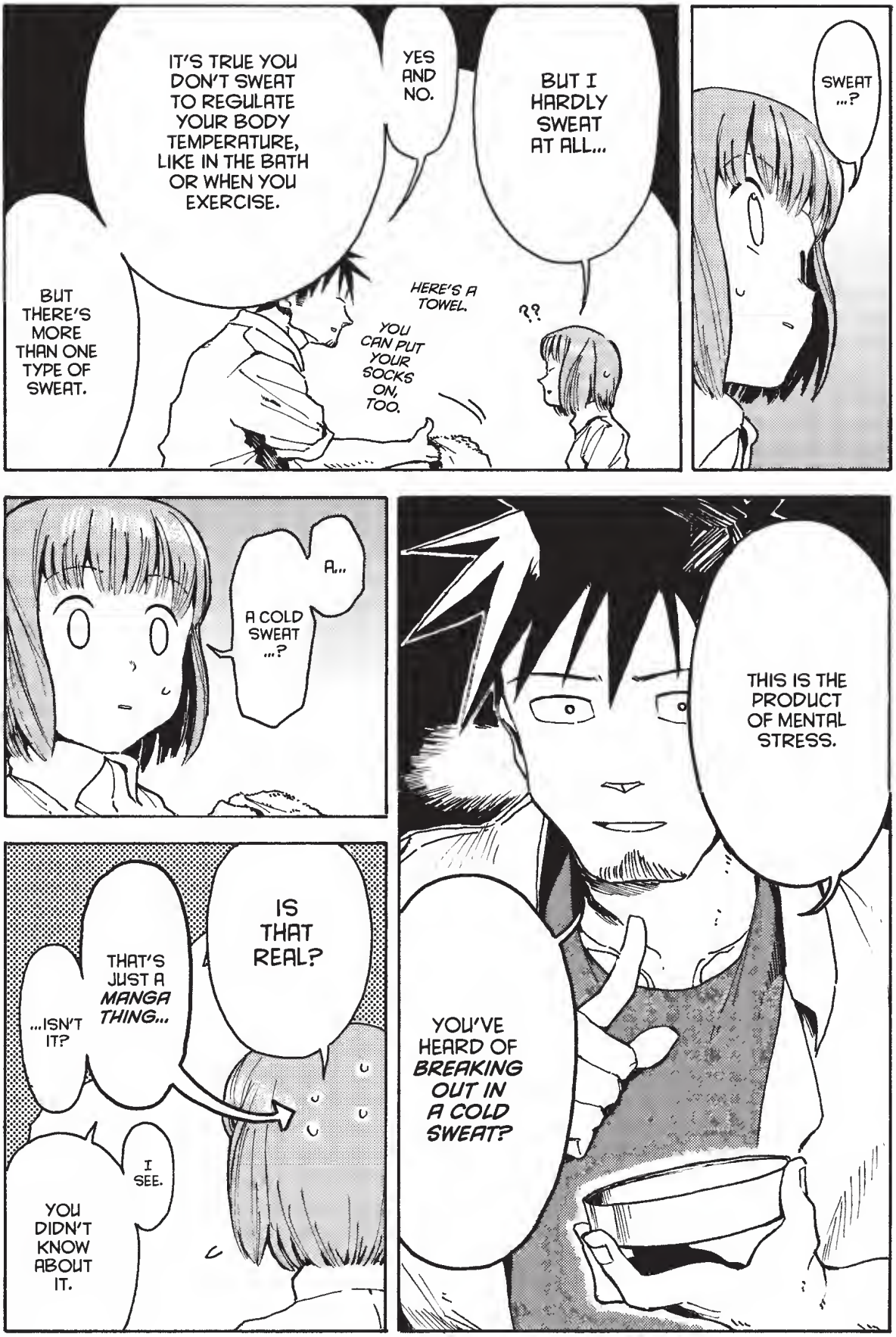
...
...GO ON.
...OKAY.
"A SNOW WOMAN STORY FROM NIIGATA PRE-FECTURE."
"ONE WINTER NIGHT, IN A TERRIBLE BLIZZARD, A PALE, BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WITH LONG HAIR CAME TO A MAN..."
"HER BODY WAS COLD AS ICE, SO HE URGED HER TO TAKE A BATH, BUT SHE ADAMANTLY REFUSED."
"WHEN HE FORCED HER INTO THE BATH WATER, SHE MELTED AWAY... ONLY A BIT OF AN ICICLE REMAINED..."
BRRR...
!
I HATE TO HURT HER LIKE THIS.
BUT IF MY GUESS IS CORRECT...
THIS IS VERY PAINFUL FOR KUSAKABE.
...


SHE'S GIVING OFF A CHILL...
BUT, NOT ENOUGH TO FREEZE WATER...
"IN RESPONSE..."
"AND..."
"SHE..."
"A CHILDREN'S FABLE."
"THERE ONCE WAS A VILLAGE WHERE TWO WOODCUTTERS LIVED."
"ONE DAY, CAUGHT IN A BLIZZARD..."
"...THEY SOUGHT SHELTER IN A SMALL HUT."
"ALONG CAME A WOMAN DRESSED IN WHITE, WITH COLD EYES..."
"SHE BREATHED UPON THE TWO SLEEPING MEN..."
"...AND TURNED THEM... TO ICE..."
...

...BUT I WANT TO HELP HER.
IT WILL GO WELL. IT WILL GET BETTER.
MAYBE I HAVE NO RIGHT TO MAKE HER DO THIS...
...
THE WATER...?
"...DID NOT DIE..."
"THOUGH ..."
"THE MEN ..."
IF SHE CAN JUST GET THROUGH THIS, I'M SURE...
YES?
KUSA-KABE!
THE WATER —!
...!!

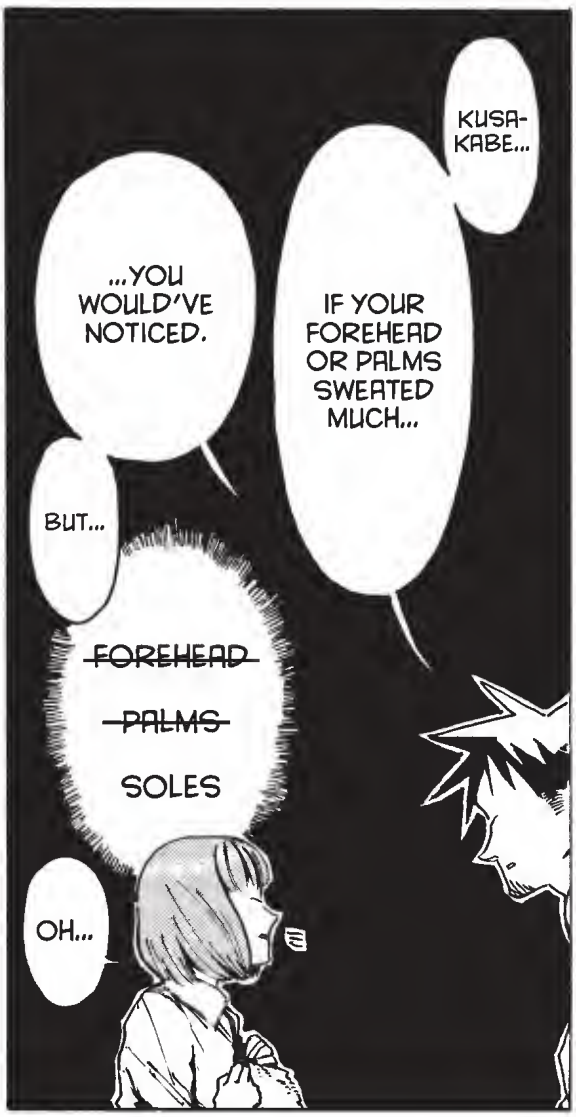
FLOAT...
I-ICE?!
WHA?!
YEEK!
...

STAAAARE
...
...
WHA...
WHAT ...?
? ?? ?
...
YEP.
IT IS ICE.
I KNEW IT.
??
YOU DID?
YES...
KUSA-KABE.
THE SWEAT FROM YOUR FEET...
THIS ICE IS SWEAT.
...JUST FROZE.

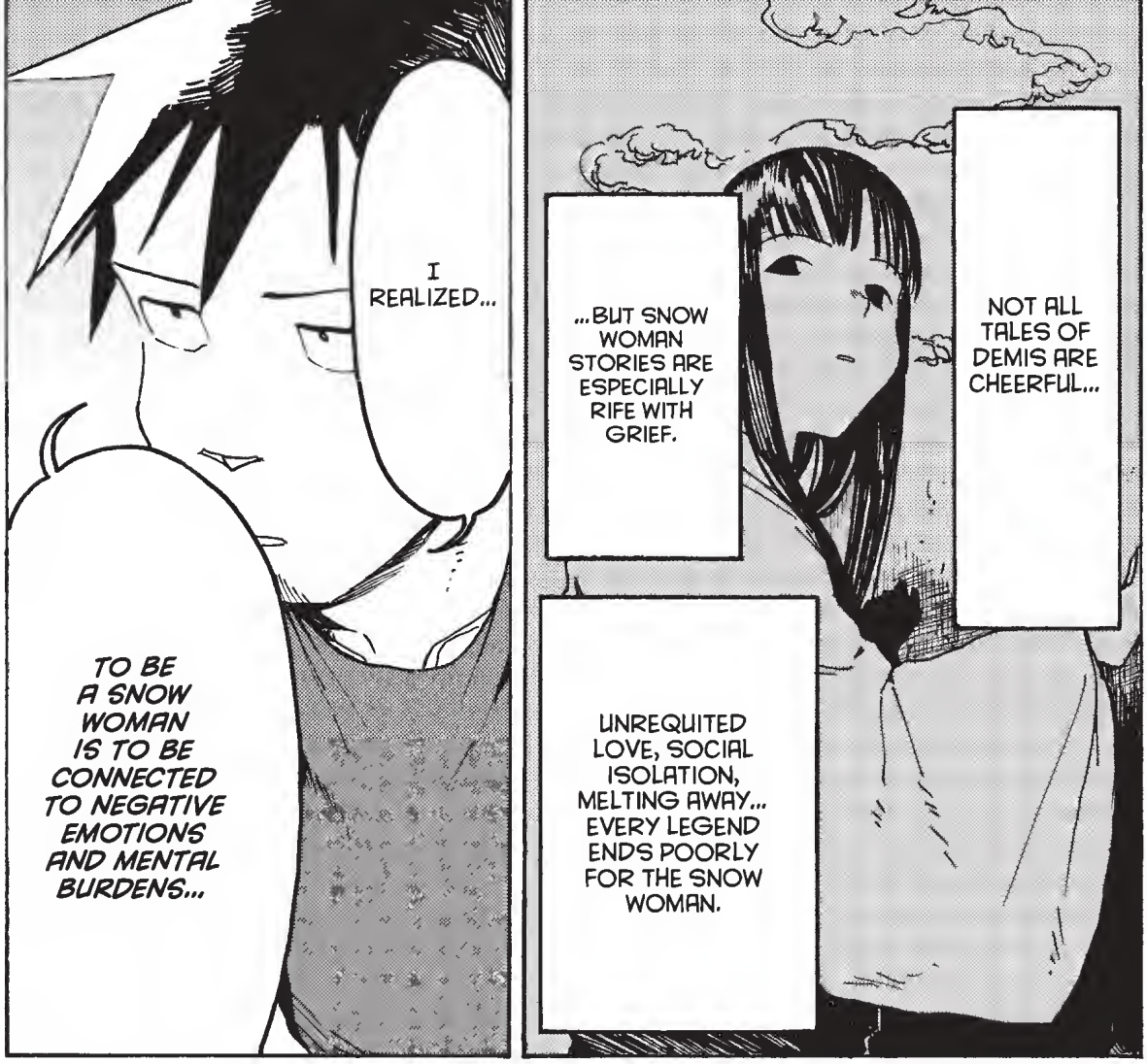

IT'S TRUE YOU DON'T SWEAT TO REGULATE YOUR BODY TEMPERATURE, LIKE IN THE BATH OR WHEN YOU EXERCISE.
YES AND NO.
BUT I HARDLY SWEAT AT ALL...
BUT THERE'S MORE THAN ONE TYPE OF SWEAT.
HERE'S A TOWEL.
YOU CAN PUT YOUR SOCKS ON, TOO.
??
SWEAT ...?
A...
A COLD SWEAT ...?
THIS IS THE PRODUCT OF MENTAL STRESS.
YOU'VE HEARD OF BREAKING OUT IN A COLD SWEAT?
IS THAT REAL?
THAT'S JUST A MANGA THING...
...ISN'T IT?
I SEE.
YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT.

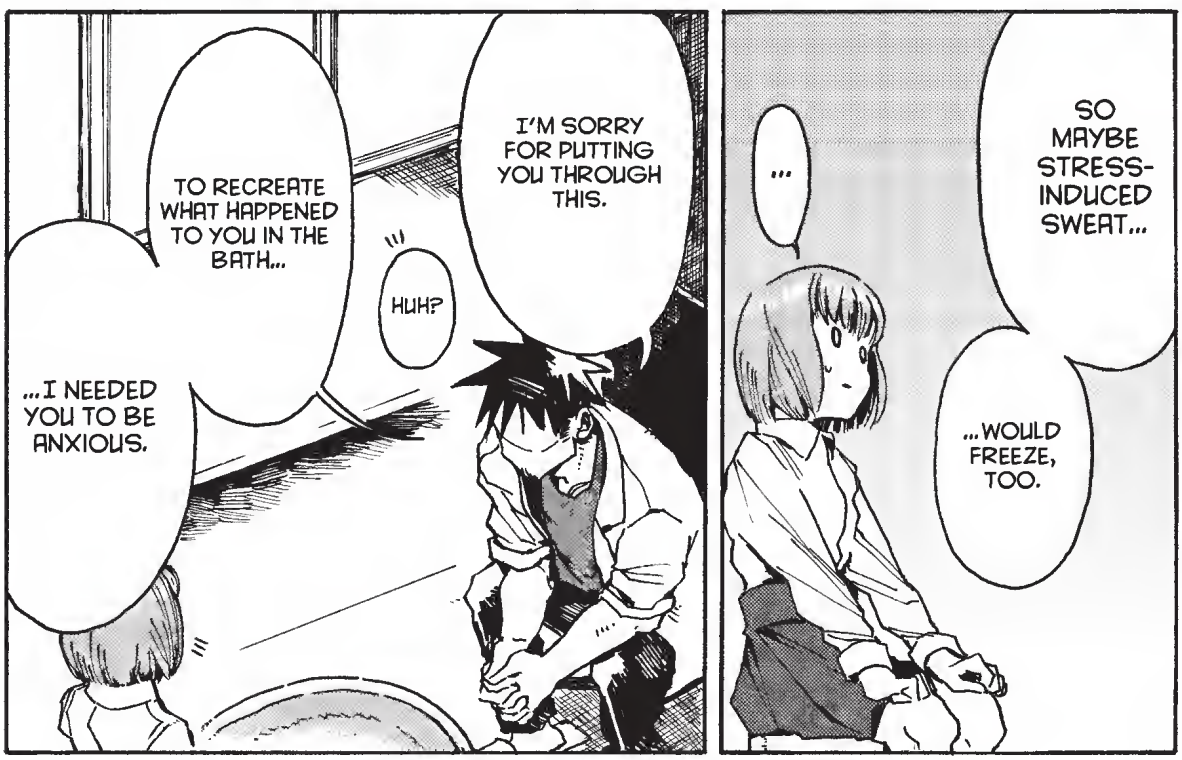
WE REALLY DO GET "COLD SWEATS."
IT'S MOST COMMON ON...
THE FORE-HEAD...
THE PALMS...
...AND THE SOLES OF THE FEET.
EVERYONE'S DIFFERENT, OF COURSE.
FOR EXAMPLE, MY FOREHEAD STAYS DRY, BUT MY PALMS TEND TO SWEAT EASILY.

RIGHT. YOU GET "COLD SWEAT" ON THE BOTTOMS OF YOUR FEET.
FEW PEOPLE REALIZE, BUT THE SOLES OF THE FEET HAVE MORE SWEAT GLANDS THAN ALMOST ANYWHERE ELSE ON THE BODY.

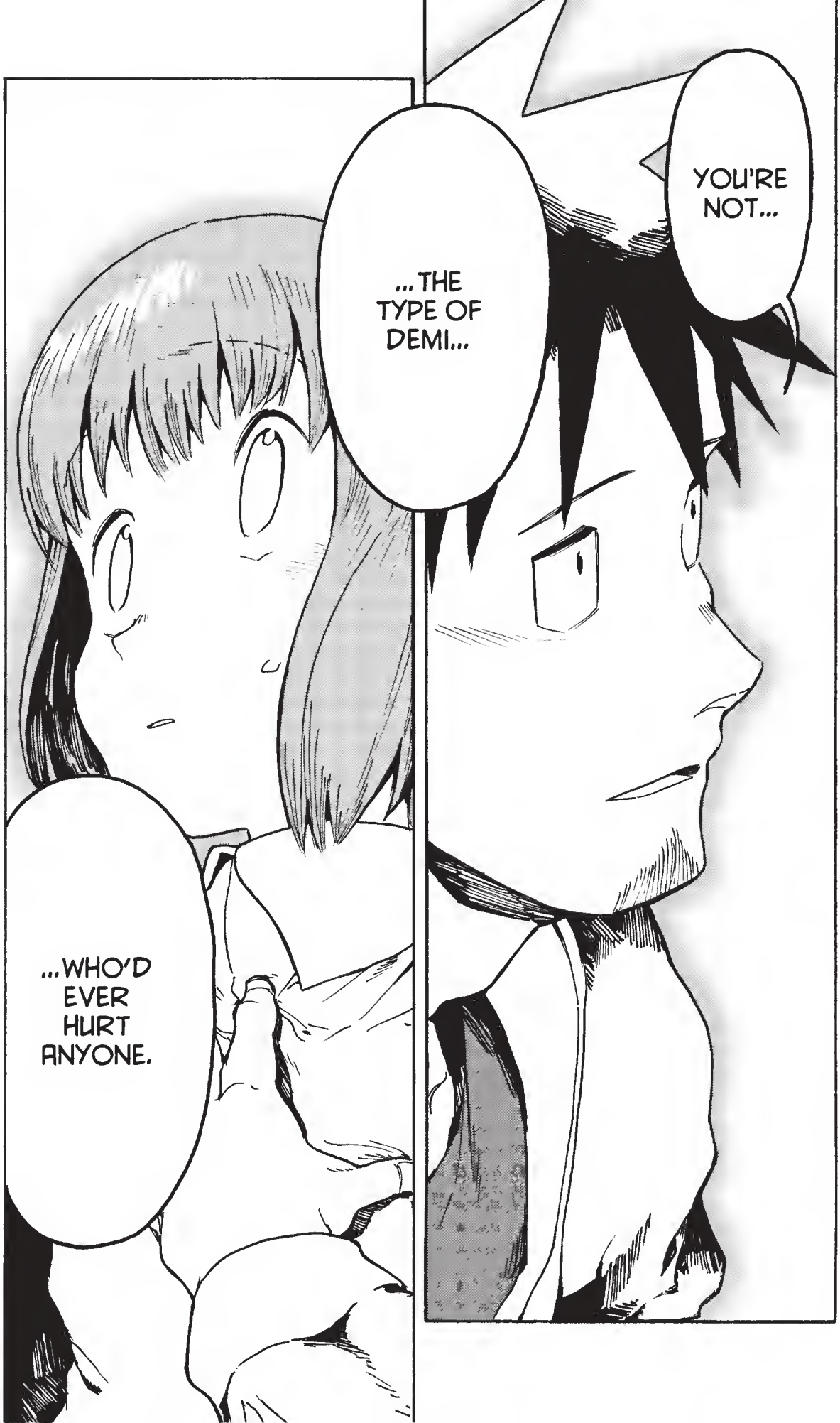

KUSA-KABE...
IF YOUR FOREHEAD OR PALMS SWEATED MUCH...
...YOU WOULD'VE NOTICED.
BUT...
~~FOREHEAD~~
~~PALMS~~
SOLES
OH...

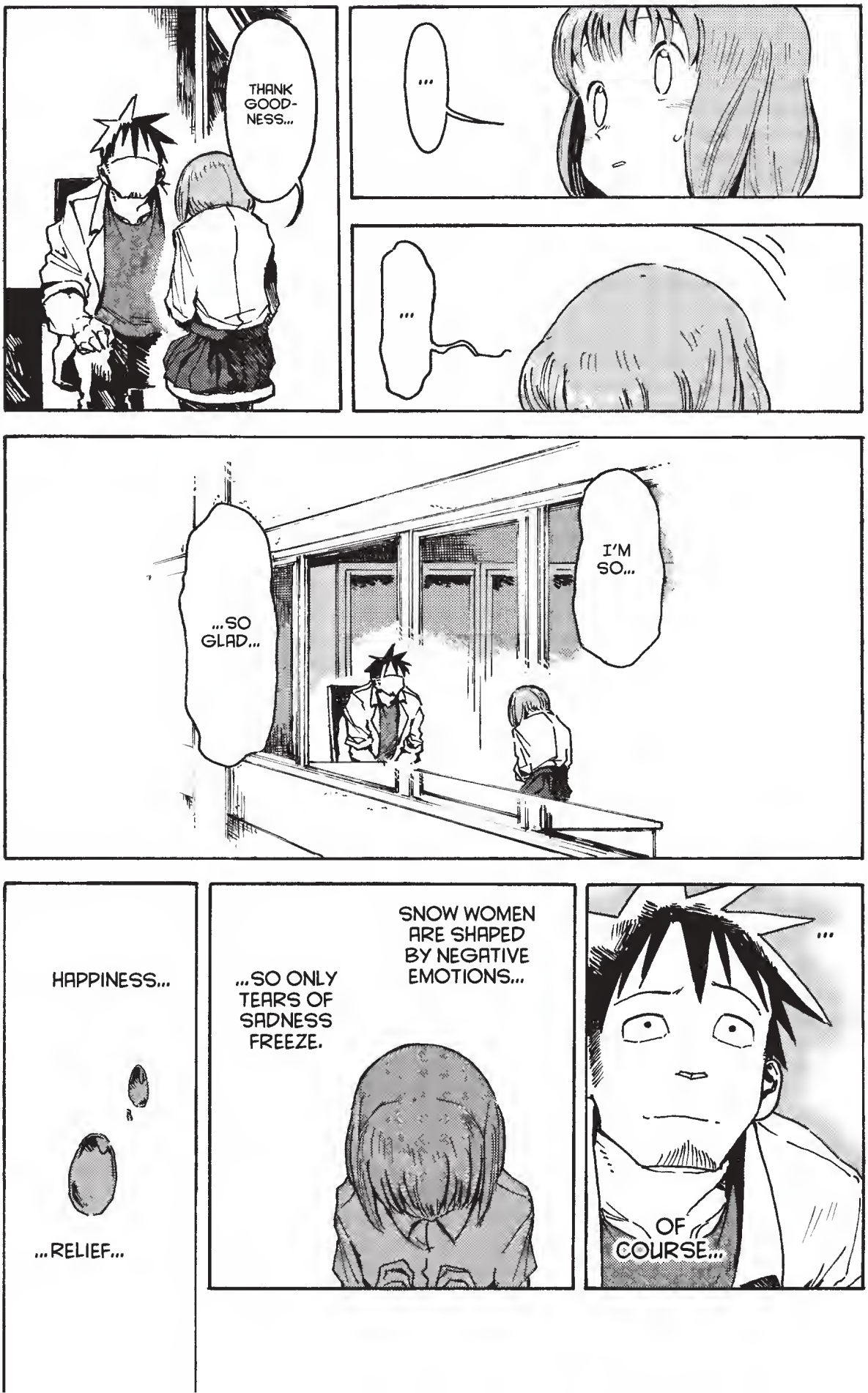
...
すりすり...
TUG TUG
!!!
DO YOUR FEET GET COLD WHEN YOU'RE NERVOUS...?
YES, THEY DO... MAYBE I GET COLD EASILY...?
...!!
THE CLUE...
...WAS IN THE STORIES.
THE STORIES ...?
...THAT'S AMAZING.
BUT WHAT...
...MADE YOU THINK COLD SWEAT WOULD FREEZE?
AH...


NOT ALL TALES OF DEMIS ARE CHEERFUL...
...BUT SNOW WOMAN STORIES ARE ESPECIALLY RIFE WITH GRIEF.
UNREQUITED LOVE, SOCIAL ISOLATION, MELTING AWAY... EVERY LEGEND ENDS POORLY FOR THE SNOW WOMAN.
I REALIZED...
TO BE A SNOW WOMAN IS TO BE CONNECTED TO NEGATIVE EMOTIONS AND MENTAL BURDENS...


SO MAYBE STRESS-INDUCED SWEAT...
...
...WOULD FREEZE, TOO.
I'M SORRY FOR PUTTING YOU THROUGH THIS.
HUH?
TO RECREATE WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU IN THE BATH...
...I NEEDED YOU TO BE ANXIOUS.

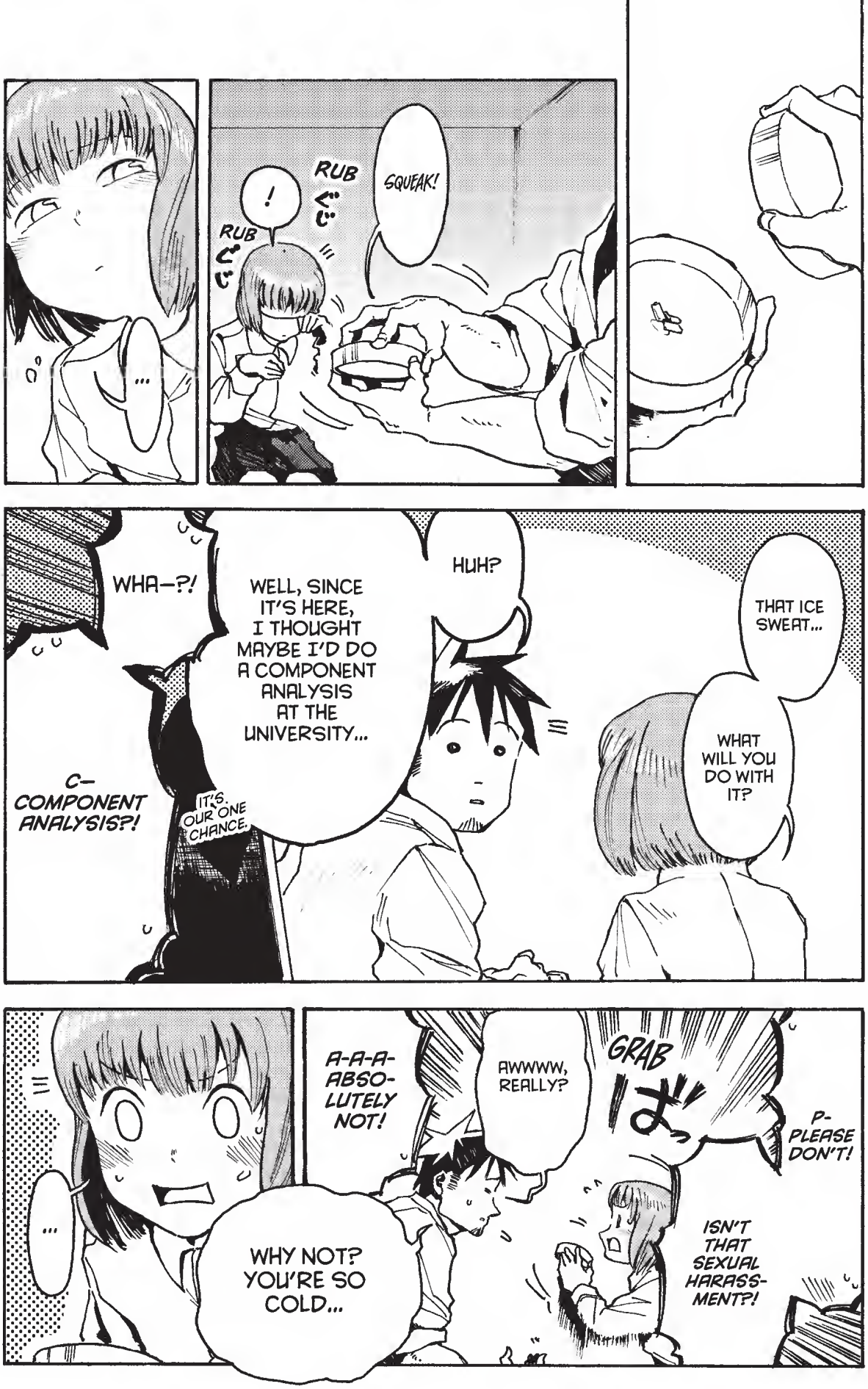
Y-YOU DID...
...SOLVE IT, RIGHT...?
Y-YOU WERE TRYING TO SOLVE MY PROBLEM...
I-I-IT'S ALL RIGHT!
...
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
YOUR PERSONAL CONCERNS WERE UPSETTING YOU...
...AND THAT MADE YOU SWEAT, EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE IN THE BATH.
THE ICE YOU SAW IN THE BATH WAS YOUR OWN SWEAT!
I'M SURE OF IT.
YES, YOU'RE FINE.
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT...
YOU WERE RIGHT WHEN YOU SAID IT WOULDN'T AFFECT ANYONE ELSE.
KUSA-KABE.
...
IT'S BARELY ENOUGH TO COOL THE WATER.
YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT THE CHILL THAT EMANATES FROM YOUR BODY, EITHER.


YOU'RE NOT...
...THE TYPE OF DEMI...
...WHO'D EVER HURT ANYONE.


THANK GOOD-NESS...
...
...
I'M SO...
...SO GLAD...
HAPPINESS...
...RELIEF...
...SO ONLY TEARS OF SADNESS FREEZE.
SNOW WOMEN ARE SHAPED BY NEGATIVE EMOTIONS...
...
OF COURSE...

THOSE WARM TEARS...
...DON'T FREEZE.

I HOPE...
...THOSE ARE THE ONLY TEARS...
...SHE'LL CRY FROM NOW ON.

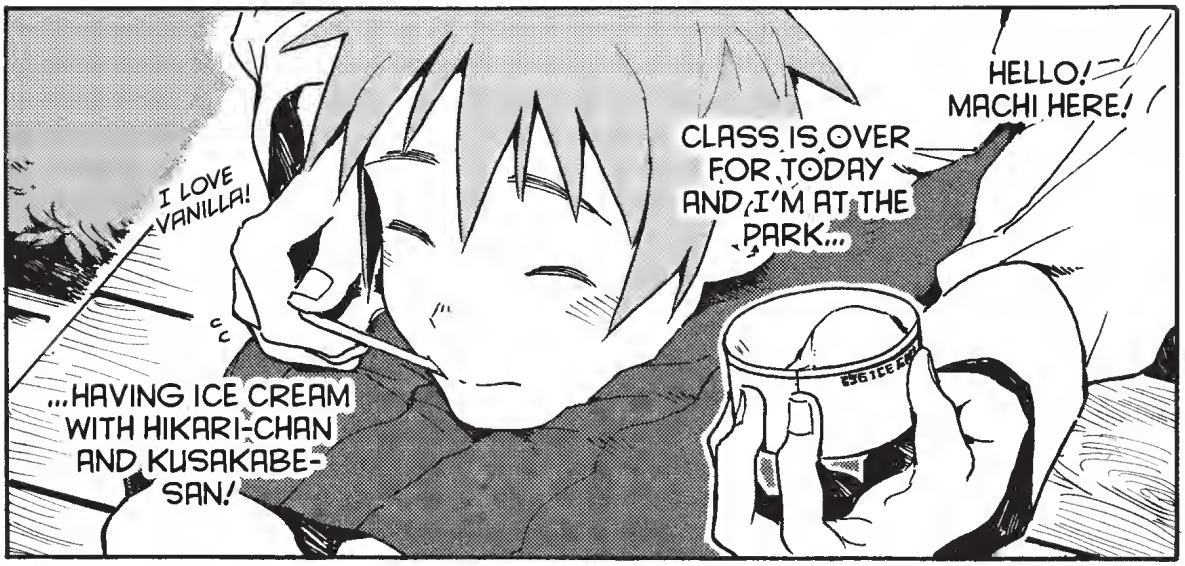

...
!
RUB
RUB
SQUEAK!
THAT ICE SWEAT...
WHAT WILL YOU DO WITH IT?
HUH?
WELL, SINCE IT'S HERE, I THOUGHT MAYBE I'D DO A COMPONENT ANALYSIS AT THE UNIVERSITY...
IT'S OUR ONE CHANCE.
WHA—?!
C-COMPONENT ANALYSIS?!
...
WHY NOT? YOU'RE SO COLD...
A-A-A-ABSO-LUTELY NOT!
AWWWW, REALLY?
GRAB
P-PLEASE DON'T!
ISN'T THAT SEXUAL HARASS-MENT?!

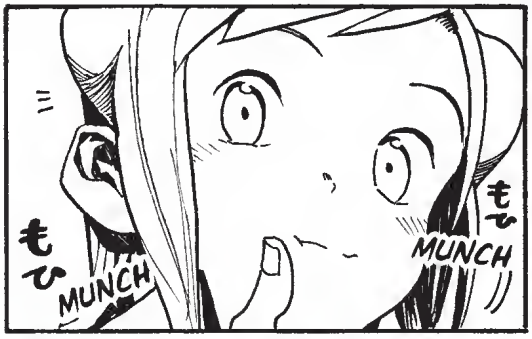
DUH!
I'M A SNOW WOMAN!

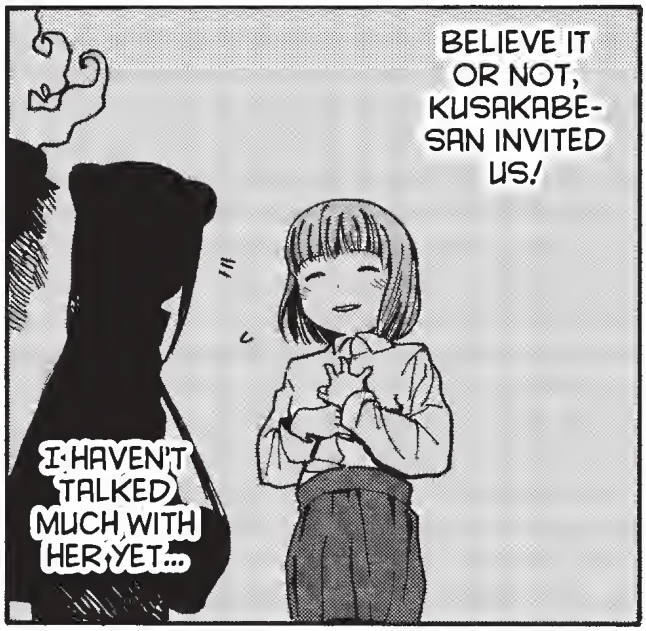
HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE WHAT'S HAPPENING HERE?
HMM...
THIS IS THE CRYSTAL-LIZATION OF BODILY FLUIDS PRODUCED UNDER STRESS...
IN A WORD—
—THE PRODUCT OF YOUR SWEAT AND TEARS!
SORRY, I'M... NOT SURE HOW TO REACT...
NO, MY FAULT... SORRY...
BAD JOKE...

INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS

Chapter 14: Demis, Buddies

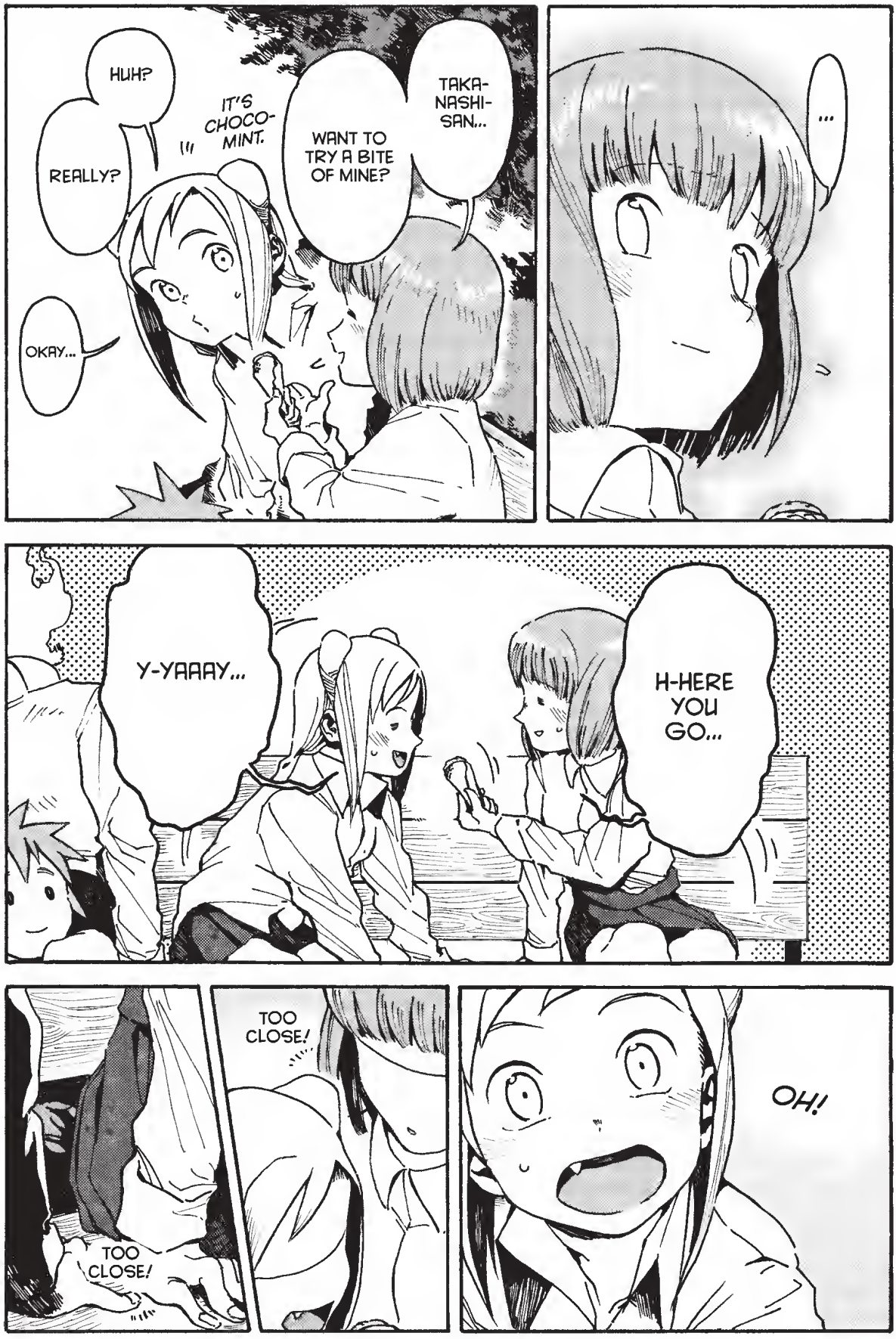

HELLO! MACHI HERE!
CLASS IS OVER FOR TODAY AND I'M AT THE PARK...
I LOVE VANILLA!
...HAVING ICE CREAM WITH HIKARI-CHAN AND KUSAKABE-SAN!


MUNCH
MUNCH

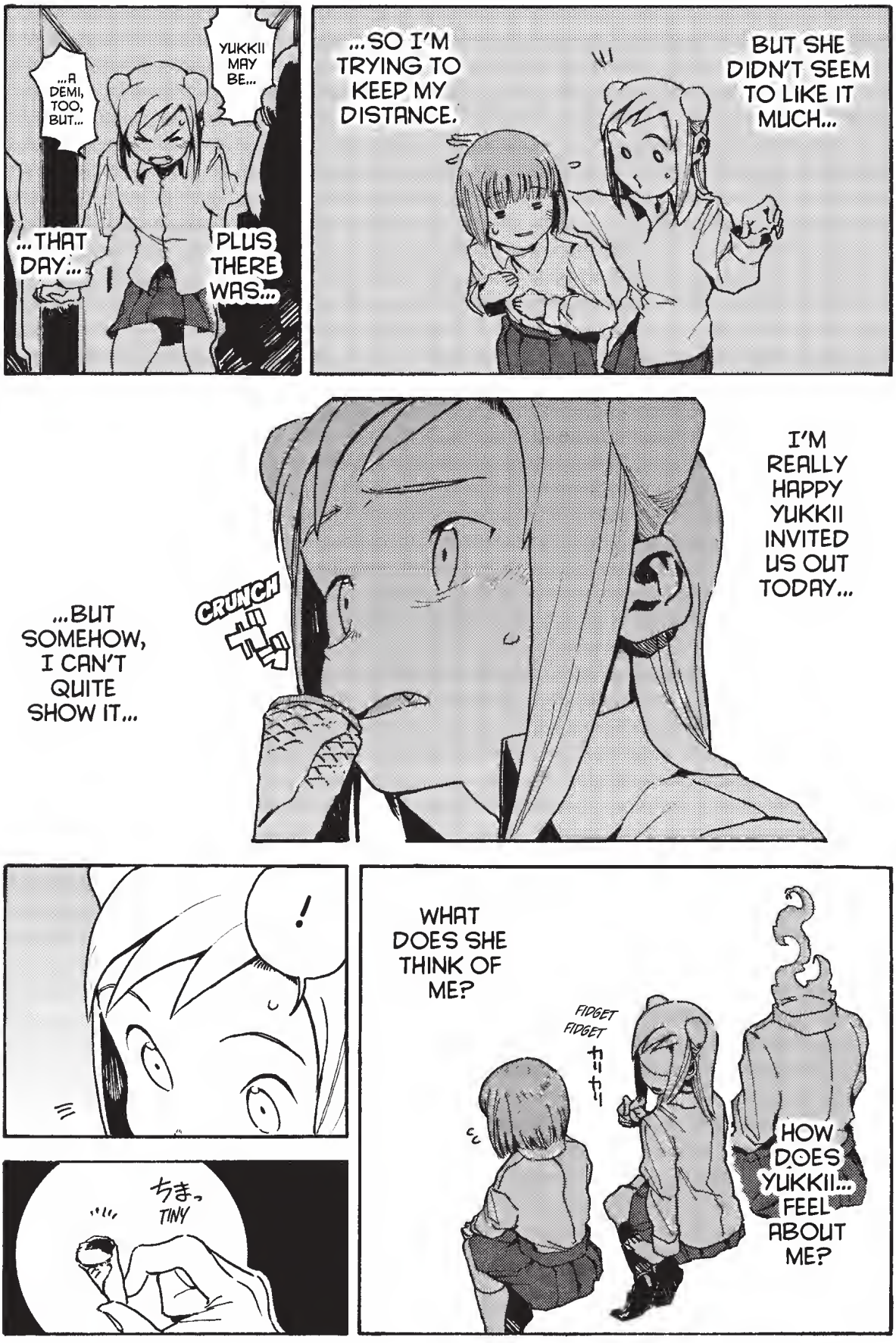

BELIEVE IT OR NOT, KUSAKABE-SAN INVITED US!
I HAVEN'T TALKED MUCH WITH HER YET...

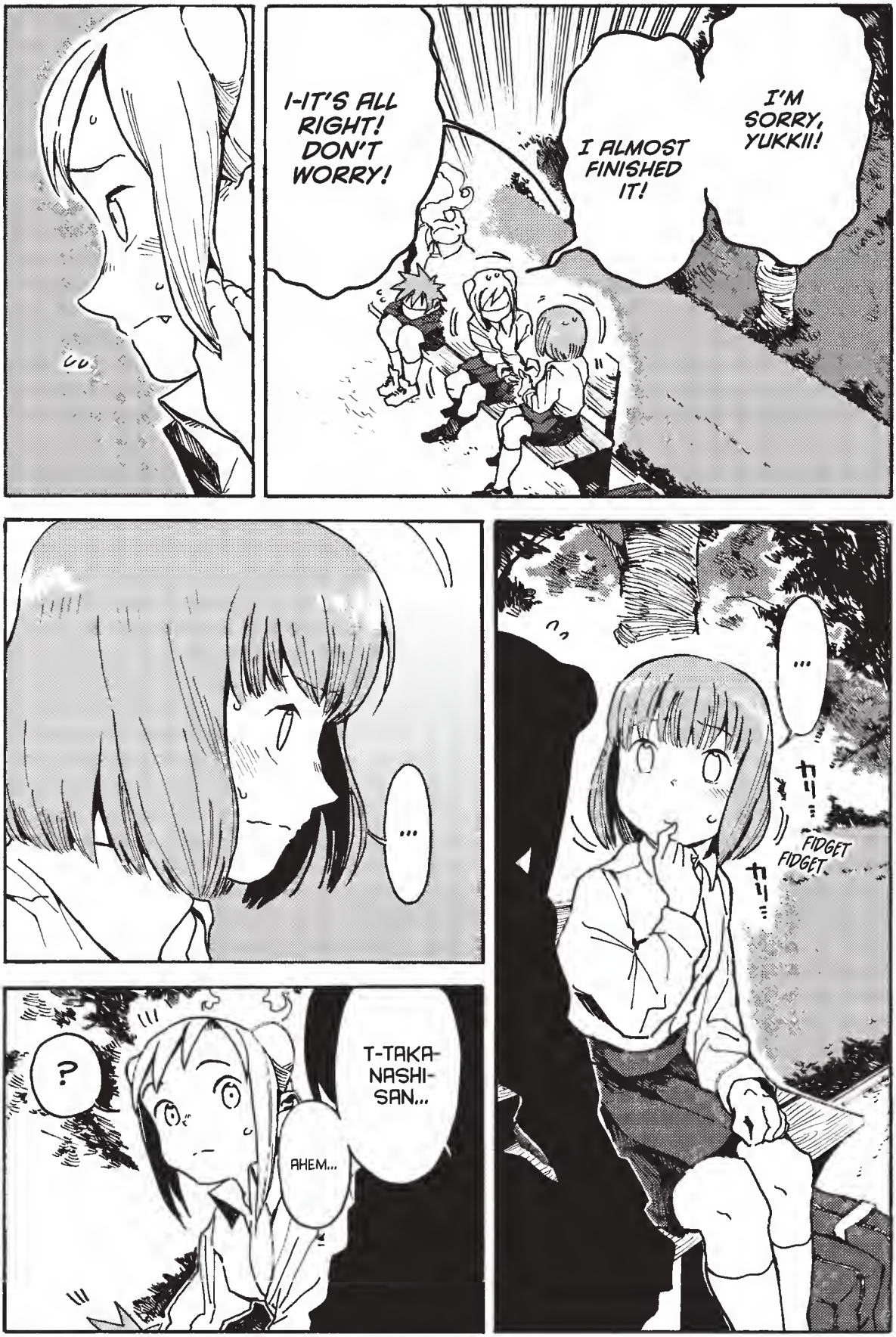
MACCHII, YOU ALL RIGHT?
NO TROUBLE EATING?
N-NOPE!
I GOT IT IN A CUP, SO...
THANKS!

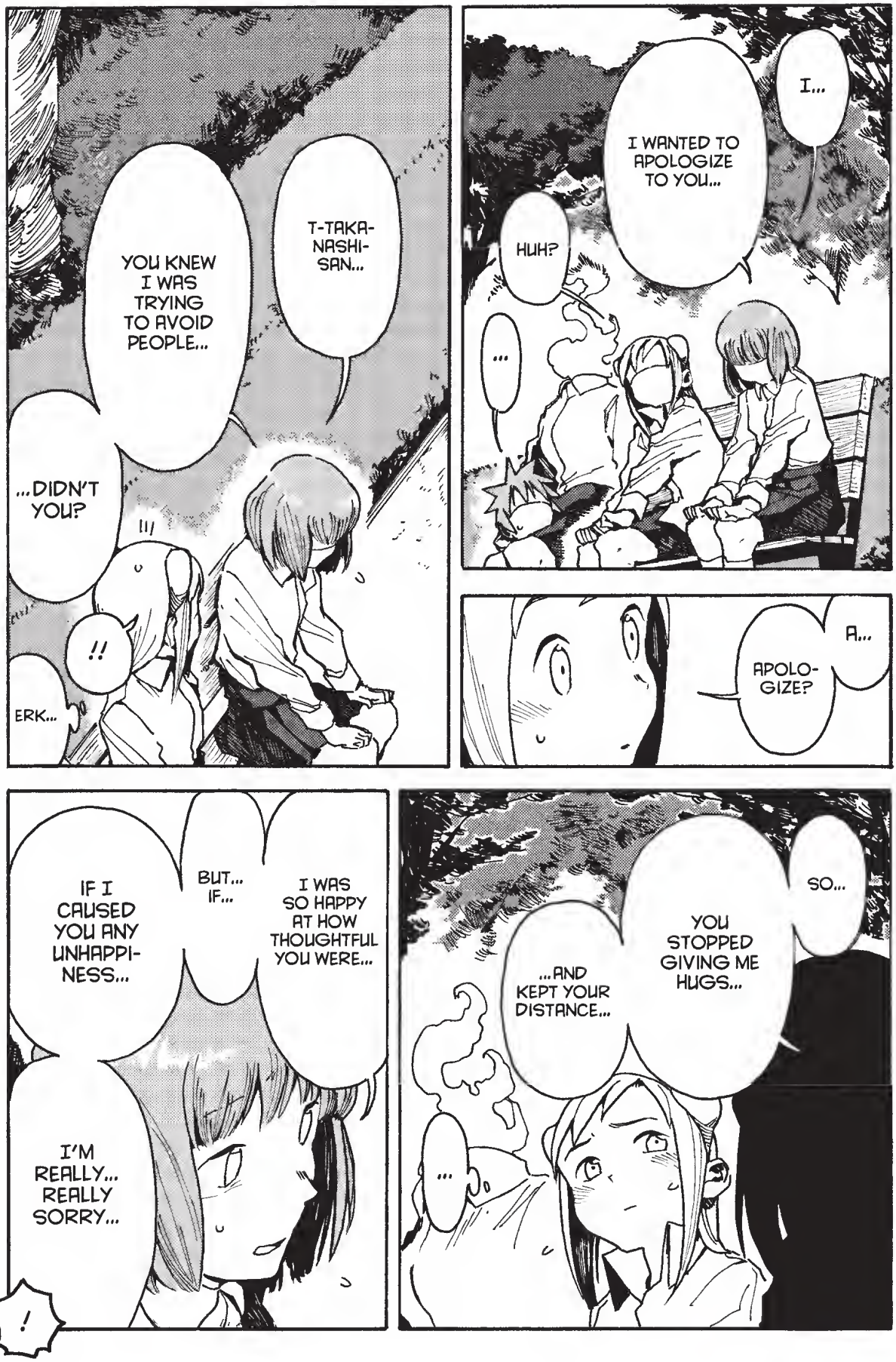
...WE CAN BECOME BETTER FRIENDS!
...SO I HOPE NOW...

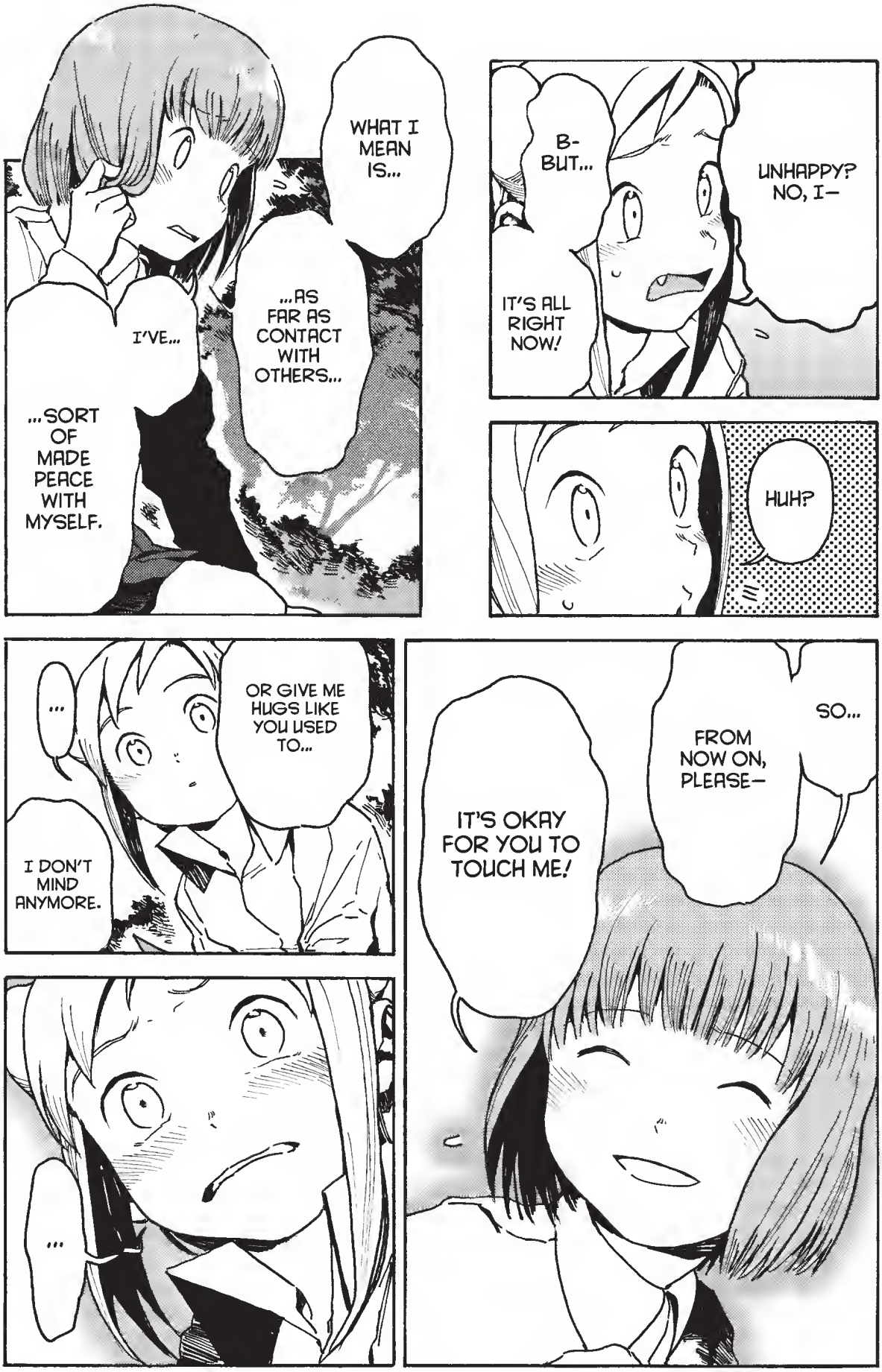

TAKA-NASHI-SAN...
WANT TO TRY A BITE OF MINE?
IT'S CHOCO-MINT.
HUH?
REALLY?
OKAY...
...
H-HERE YOU GO...
Y-YAAAY...
TOO CLOSE!
TOO CLOSE!
OH!

...
JOLT
WHOA!
H-HAND IT THIS WAY...
S-SURE...
...I USED TO GIVE HER...
...LOTS OF HUGS AND STUFF.
THE MINT'S REFRESHING... YUM!
S-SURE IS...
WHEN YUKKII AND I FIRST MET...
...


...A DEMI, TOO, BUT...
YUKKII MAY BE...
...THAT DAY...
PLUS THERE WAS...
...SO I'M TRYING TO KEEP MY DISTANCE.
BUT SHE DIDN'T SEEM TO LIKE IT MUCH...
I'M REALLY HAPPY YUKKII INVITED US OUT TODAY...
CRUNCH
...BUT SOMEHOW, I CAN'T QUITE SHOW IT...
!
ちまっ
TINY
WHAT DOES SHE THINK OF ME?
FIDGET FIDGET
HOW DOES YUKKII... FEEL ABOUT ME?

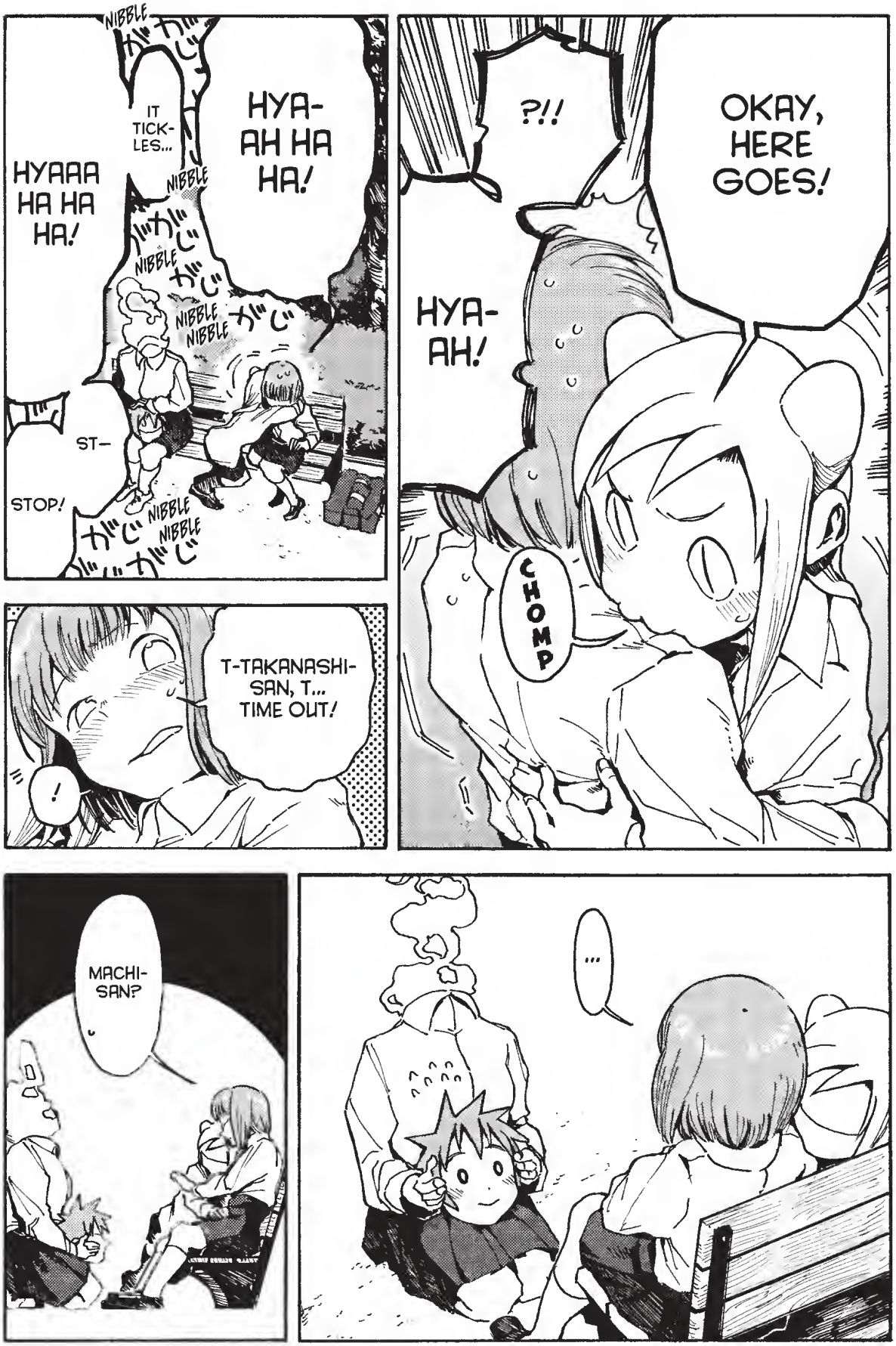

I-IT'S ALL RIGHT! DON'T WORRY!
I ALMOST FINISHED IT!
I'M SORRY, YUKKII!
...
カリ…
FIDGET FIDGET
カリ…
...
T-TAKA-NASHI-SAN...
AHEM...
?

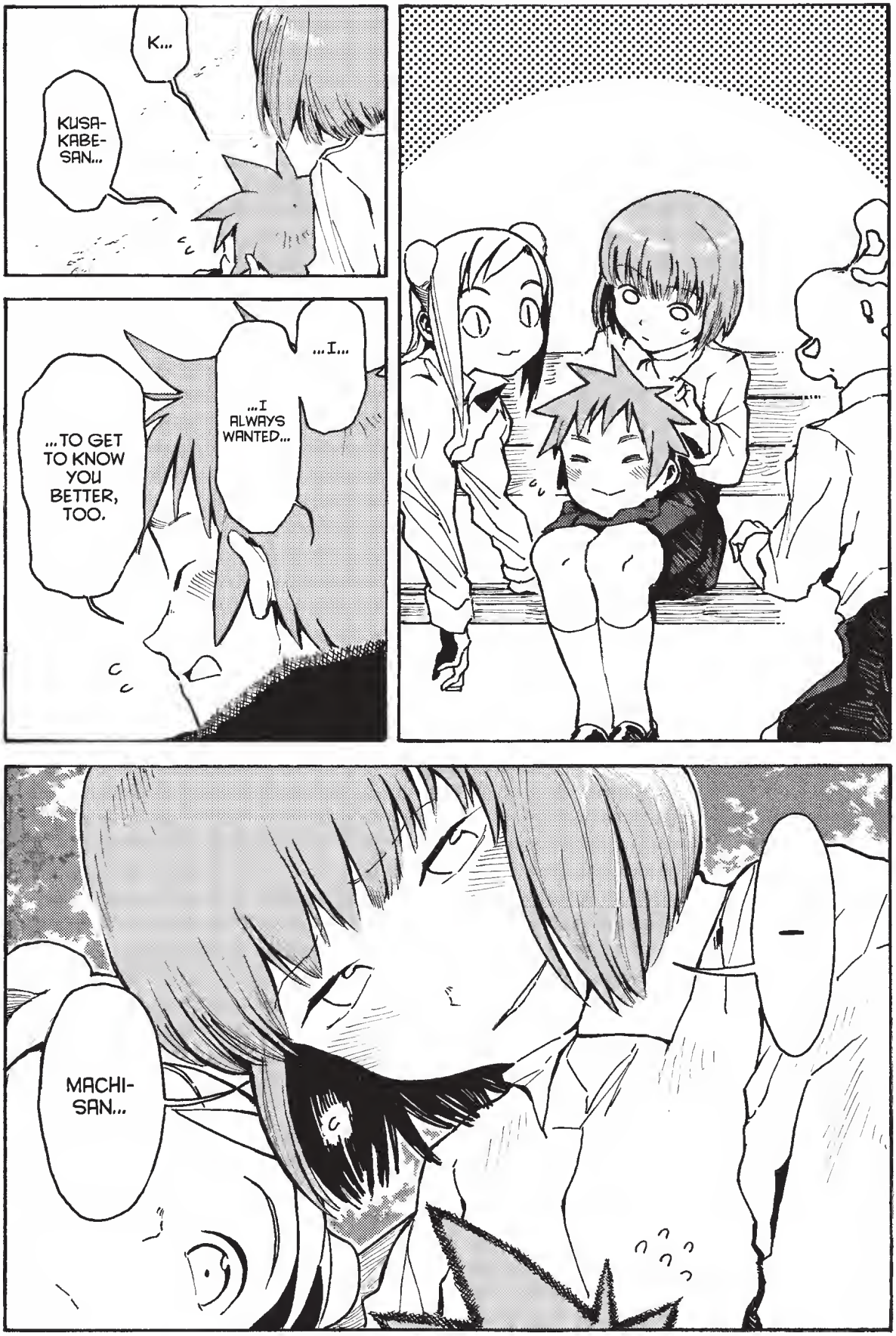

T-TAKA-NASHI-SAN...
YOU KNEW I WAS TRYING TO AVOID PEOPLE...
...DIDN'T YOU?
!!
ERK...
I...
I WANTED TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU...
HUH?
...
A...
APOLO-GIZE?
SO...
YOU STOPPED GIVING ME HUGS...
...AND KEPT YOUR DISTANCE...
...
BUT... IF...
I WAS SO HAPPY AT HOW THOUGHTFUL YOU WERE...
IF I CAUSED YOU ANY UNHAPPI-NESS...
I'M REALLY... REALLY SORRY...
!

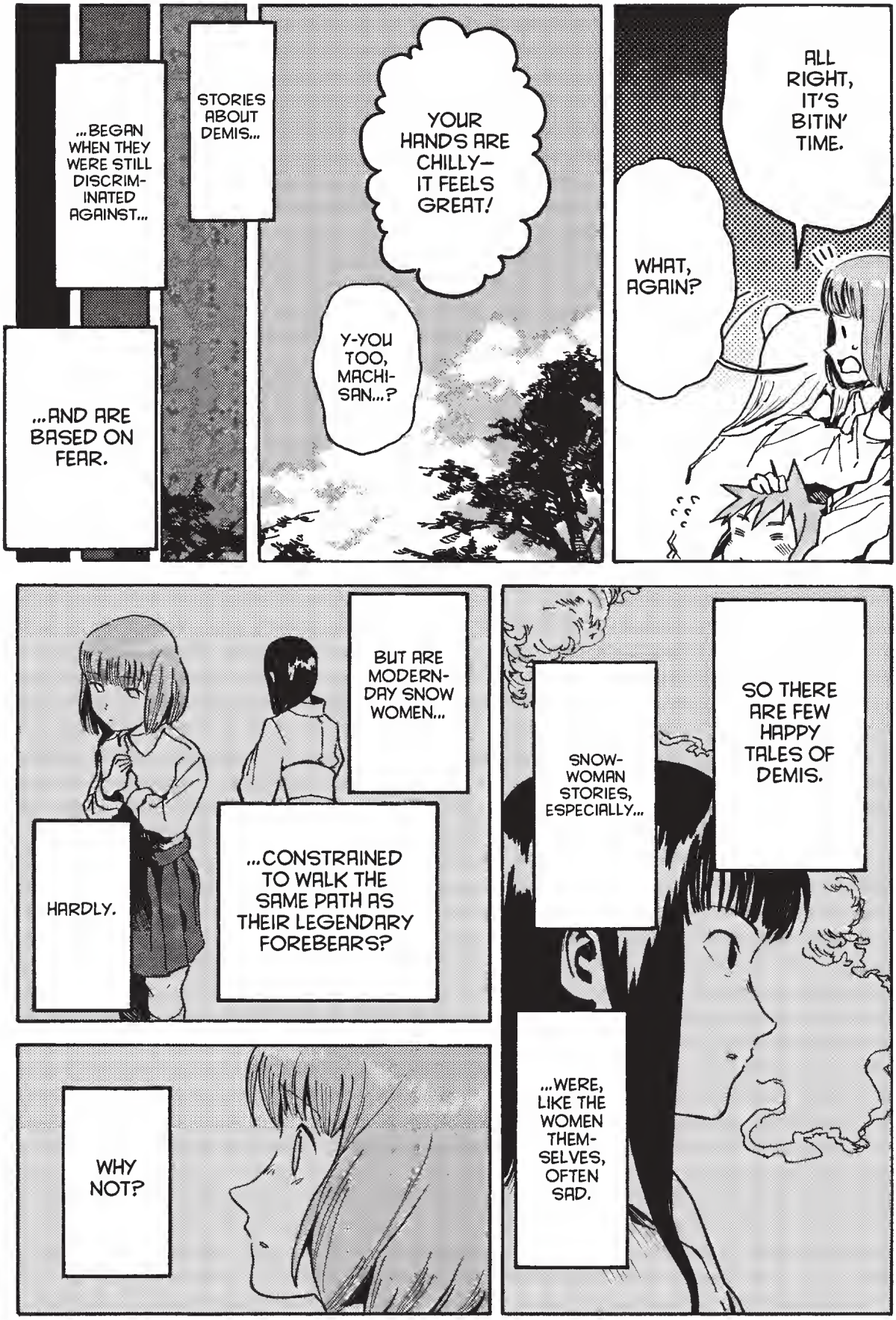

WHAT I MEAN IS...
...AS FAR AS CONTACT WITH OTHERS...
I'VE...
...SORT OF MADE PEACE WITH MYSELF.
B-BUT...
IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW!
UNHAPPY? NO, I—
HUH?
...
OR GIVE ME HUGS LIKE YOU USED TO...
I DON'T MIND ANYMORE.
...
SO...
FROM NOW ON, PLEASE—
IT'S OKAY FOR YOU TO TOUCH ME!

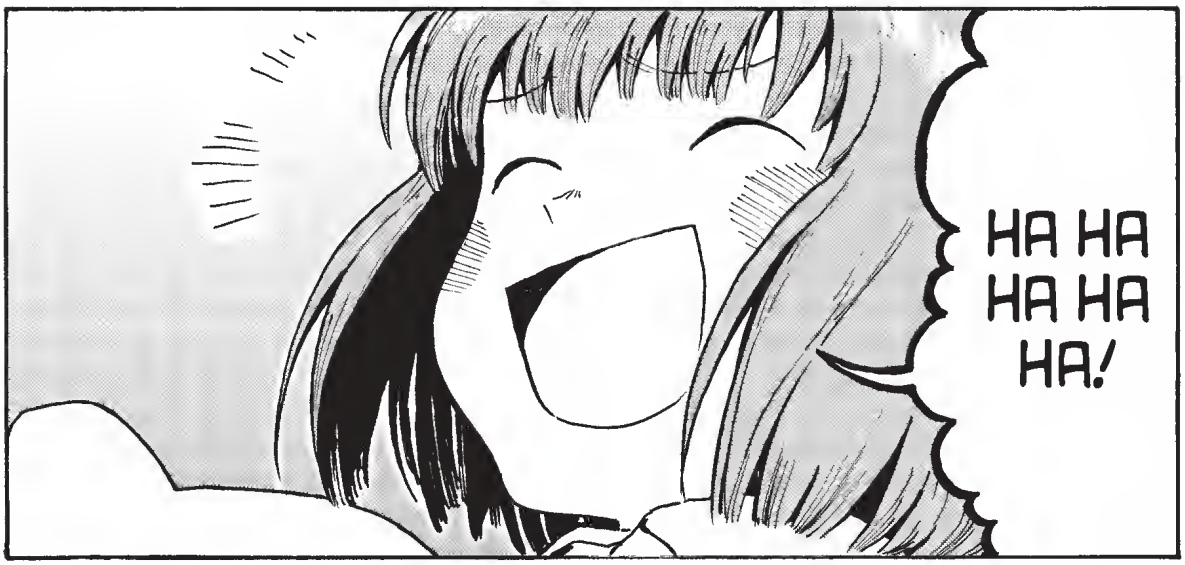
EH HEH HEH...
THAT WAS A LITTLE SUDDEN...
...
THANK GOOD-NESS...
I THOUGHT YOU HATED ME, YUKKII...
!
N-NO! NOT AT ALL!
BUT...
I WAS SO HAPPY YOU INVITED US OUT.
AND...
...
YIKES!
WHOA!
YUKKII!!

...
FIDGET FIDGET
BOUNCE
...SOMETIMES YOUR TEETH KIND OF ITCH, YOU JUST WANT TO BITE SOMETHING...
HOW DO I PUT THIS? I HAVE PLENTY OF BLOOD, BUT...
...BE A LITTLE ROUGH...
R-ROUGH...?
HUH?!
...COULD I NIBBLE YOU? JUST A LITTLE?
SORRY, YUKKII, BUT...
Y-YOU MEAN DRINK MY BLOOD?!
?!
N-NO!
!!
I GUESS IT'S OKAY?
REALLY ?!
R-RIGHT...
J-JUST LIGHTLY... OVER YOUR CLOTHES.


NIBBLE
がじ
IT TICK-LES...
HYA-AH HA HA!
HYAAA HA HA HA!
NIBBLE
がじ
NIBBLE
がじ
NIBBLE NIBBLE
がじ
ST—
STOP!
NIBBLE
NIBBLE
がじ
がじ
?!!
OKAY, HERE GOES!
HYA-AH!
CHOMP
T-TAKANASHI-SAN, T... TIME OUT!
!
MACHI-SAN?
...


K...
KUSA-KABE-SAN...
...I...
...I ALWAYS WANTED...
...TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER, TOO.
MACHI-SAN...
—


...AND ARE BASED ON FEAR.
...BEGAN WHEN THEY WERE STILL DISCRIM-INATED AGAINST...
STORIES ABOUT DEMIS...
Y-YOU TOO, MACHI-SAN...?
YOUR HANDS ARE CHILLY— IT FEELS GREAT!
WHAT, AGAIN?
ALL RIGHT, IT'S BITIN' TIME.
HARDLY.
...CONSTRAINED TO WALK THE SAME PATH AS THEIR LEGENDARY FOREBEARS?
BUT ARE MODERN-DAY SNOW WOMEN...
WHY NOT?
...WERE, LIKE THE WOMEN THEM-SELVES, OFTEN SAD.
SNOW-WOMAN STORIES, ESPECIALLY...
SO THERE ARE FEW HAPPY TALES OF DEMIS.


HA HA HA HA HA!

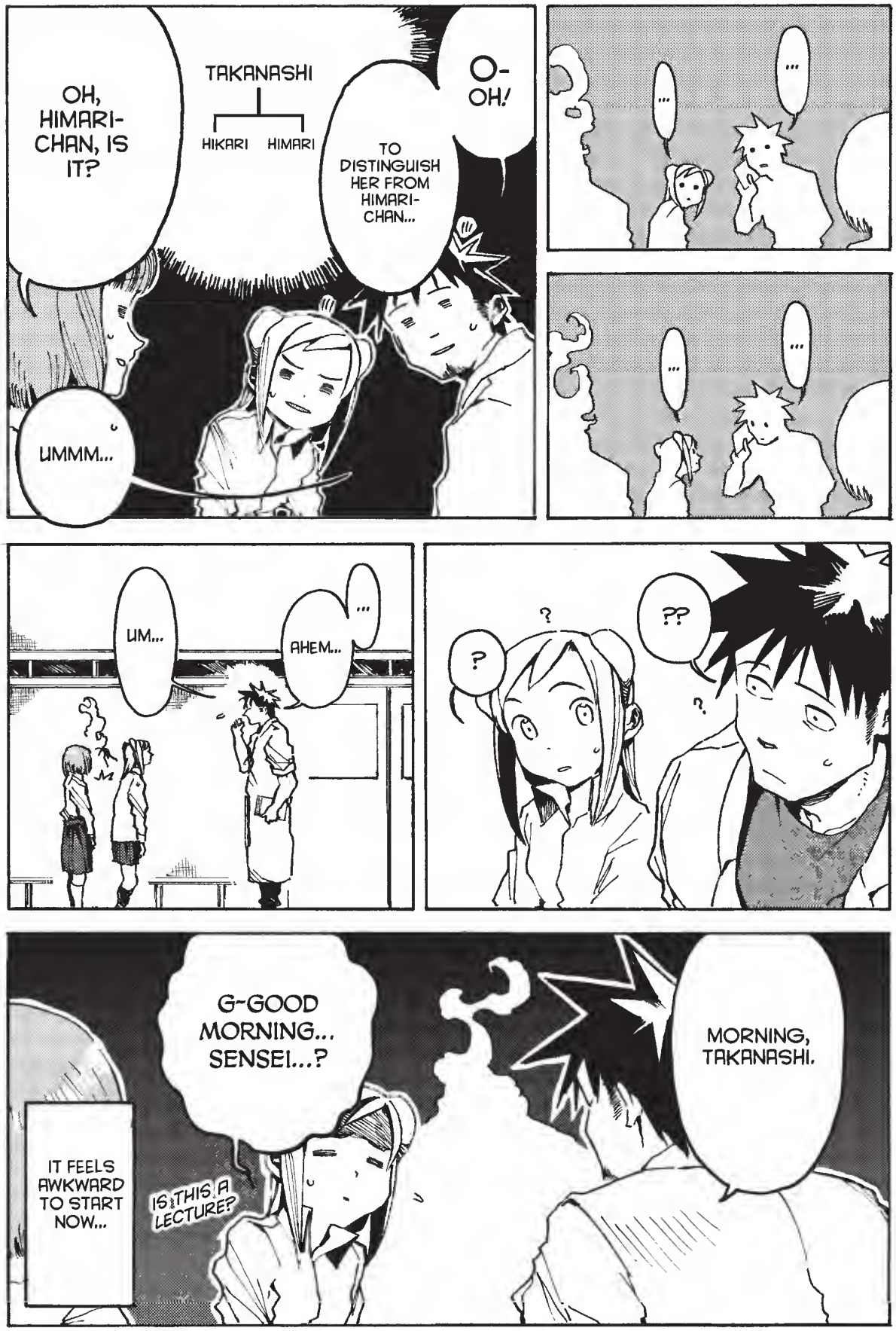
SHEESH!
YOU GUYS ARE TOO MUCH!
HA HA HA HA!
BECAUSE THEY'RE WRITING A NEW STORY, IN WHICH SNOW WOMEN, DULLAHANS, AND VAMPIRES...
...ARE ALL BUDDIES TOGETHER.

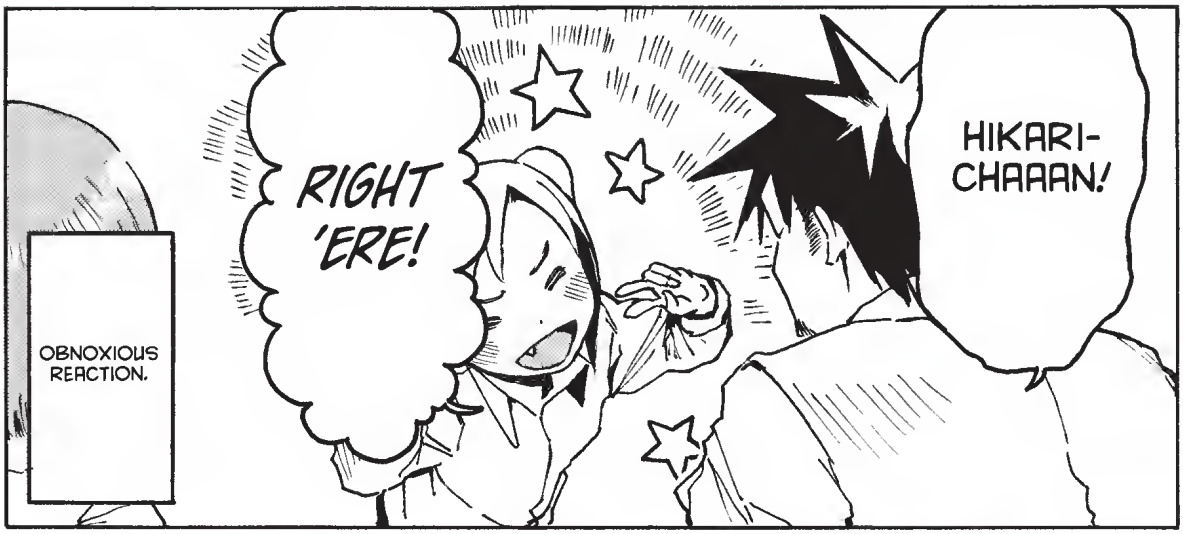
OH.
I ASK HIMARI.
WHAT DO YOU USUALLY DO WHEN YOU WANT TO BITE SOMEONE?
HER WORD SINCE CHILDHOOD
NIBBLES?
NIBBLES?
HIMARI.
MM.
NEXT PAGE.
NIBBLE
NIBBLE
MM!
FLIP

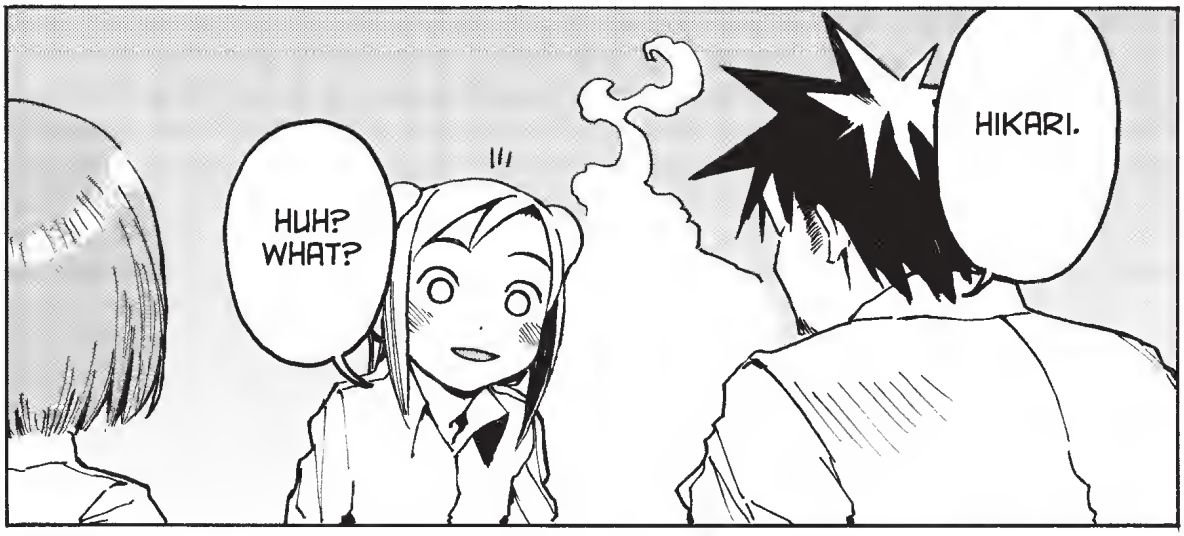
INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS

Chapter 15: What's in a Name?

...
THAT HURTS!
AWWW, WHY ME?
CAUSE, IF I SCENE, YOU'LL GET IN TROUBLE!
HIKARI!
YOU BETTER WATCH OUT...
TAKAHASHI-SENSEI...
WHY DO YOU CALL HER HIKARI?
UM...


OH, HIMARI-CHAN, IS IT?
TAKANASHI
HIKARI
HIMARI
O-OH!
TO DISTINGUISH HER FROM HIMARI-CHAN...
UMMM...
...
...
...
...
UM...
AHEM...
...
?
??
?
?
G-GOOD MORNING... SENSEI...?
IS THIS A LECTURE?
IT FEELS AWKWARD TO START NOW...
MORNING, TAKANASHI.


HIKARI-CHAAAN!
RIGHT 'ERE!
OBNOXIOUS REACTION.


HIKARI.
HUH? WHAT?

WHY NOT CALL KYOKO BY HER NAME, TOO?
IN THAT CASE...
...
!

I...
...
I GUESS I GET IT...

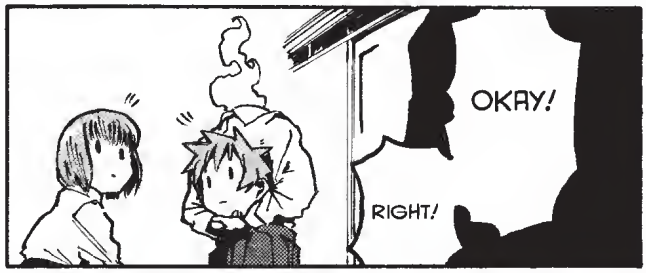
KYOKO ?
HUH? I DON'T MIND EITHER WAY.
HOW ABOUT YOU?
...
...
OH...
YOU KNOW...
"MACHI" IS FINE.
?
OKAY...
WHAP!
WHUMPH!

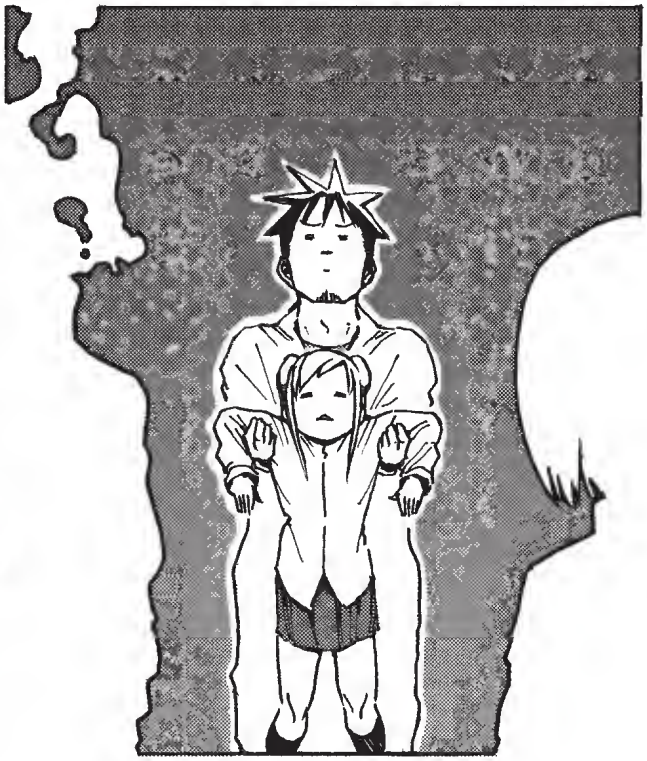
"MACHI" KIND OF SOUNDS LIKE A FIRST NAME, TOO...
...AND I LIKE BEING CALLED THAT.

ARE YOU SURE, KYOKO?
Y-
YEAH.
YUKI-CHAN...
IT'S KIND OF EMBARRASSING.
AND...

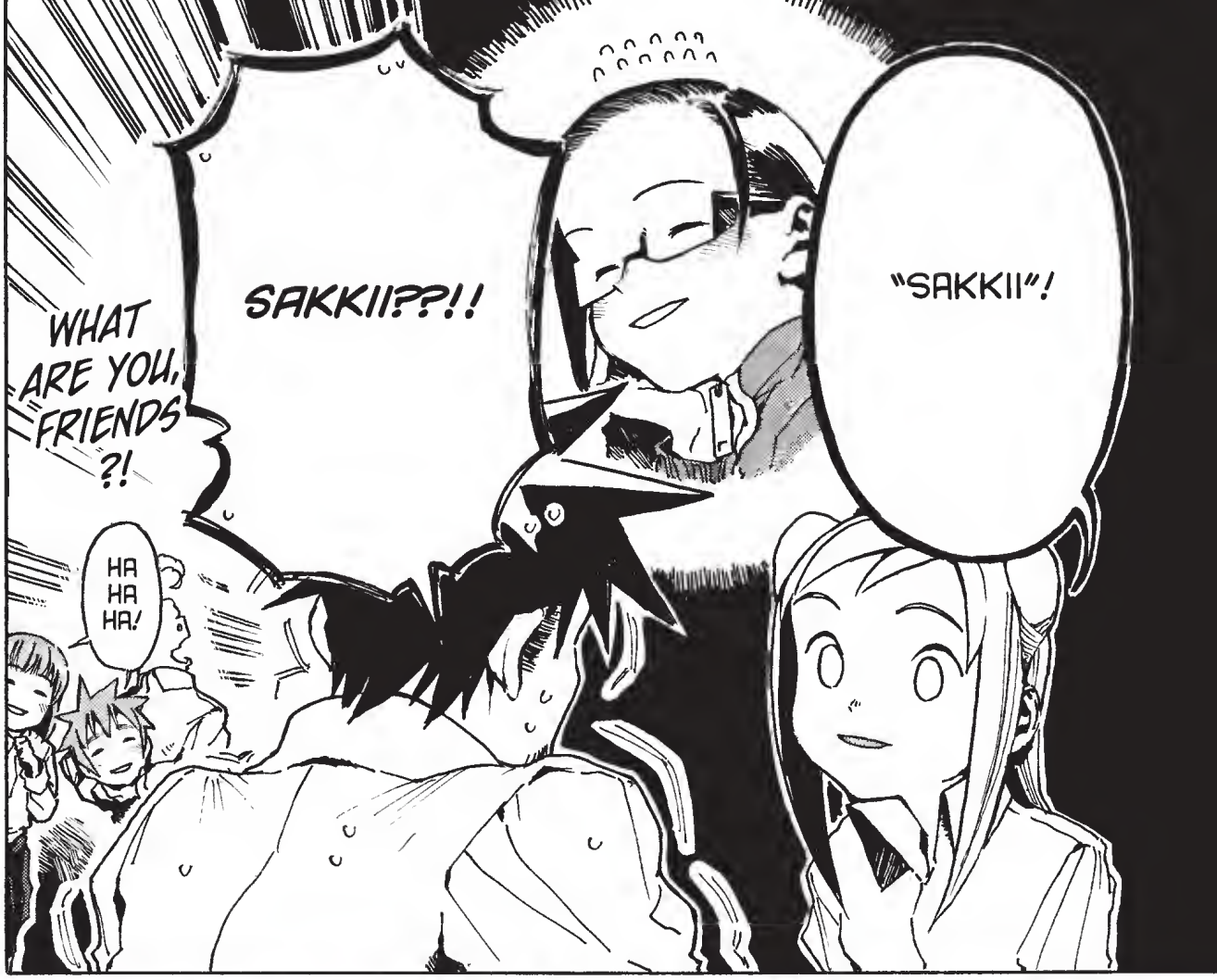
...
OKAY.

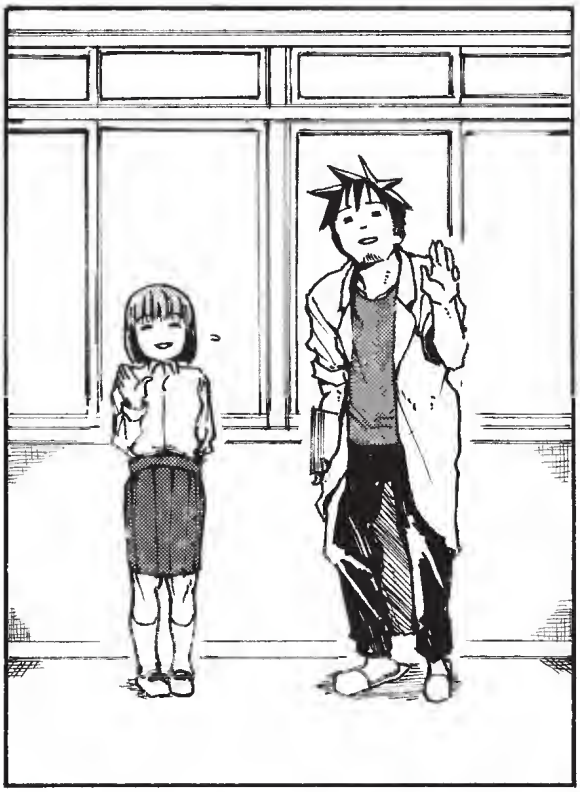
DELIBERATIONS ABOUT WHAT TO CALL EACH OTHER OUGHT TO START WITH THIS GIRL...
AW-WW!
HE GOT ME!

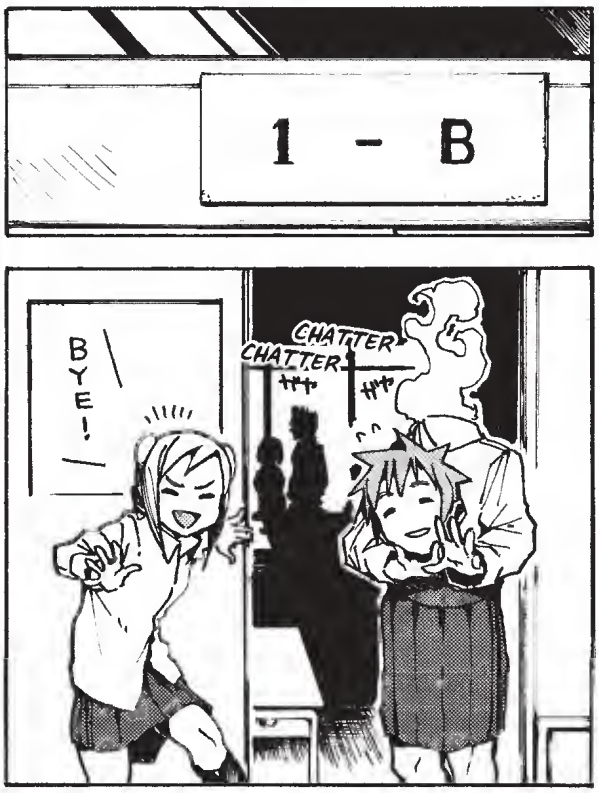

OKAY!
RIGHT!



WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
...SORTA SEEM LIKE A SENSEIII!
SENSEI, YOU JUST...
TOTALLY!
SHE'S RIGHT.
YOU'RE FULL OF YUKKIIS AND MACCHIIS!
BUT I'M JUST "SENSEI"? WHY NOT "TAKAHASHI-SENSEI," OR "TETSU-SENSEI"?
WHAT HAPPENED TO "TETSUO TAKAHASHI"?
AWW, WELL...
BUT IT'S NOT UNUSUAL TO CALL A TEACHER "SENSEI," IS IT?
NO.
HIKARI.
BUT SHE ADDRESSES ALL THE OTHER TEACHERS BY NAME.
KATO, THE JAPANESE TEACHER, IS...?
KATO-SENSEI.
AND YACHIGUSA, THE NURSE?
YACHI-GUSA-SENSEI.
SEE?
COME TO THINK OF IT, WHAT DO YOU CALL SATO-SENSEI?
!
HM?


"SAKKII"!
SAKKII?!?!!
WHAT ARE YOU, FRIENDS?!
HA HA HA!




1 - B
BYE!
CHATTER
CHATTER

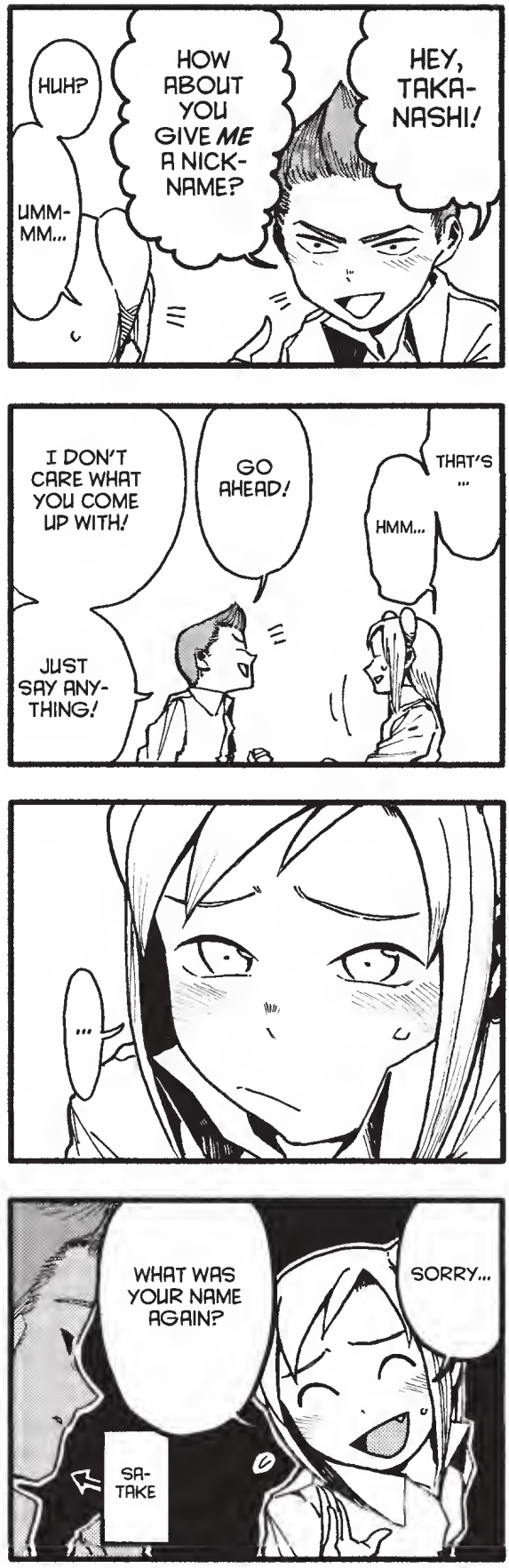
OKAY, I'D BETTER...
OH...
...
REALLY...
YEESH.
SO MUCH DRAMA. THEY'RE JUST NAMES...
...
...NO.
UM...
AHEM...
SOME-THING WRONG?
TAP
...
UH... SURE...
IT'S...
...NO-THING.
NEVER-MIND...

!!
FWAH
...
...
HA HA...
I JUST THOUGHT MAYBE YOU'D WANT TO BE CALLED THAT.
A HUNCH.

YUKI.
CATCH YOU LATER, THEN...

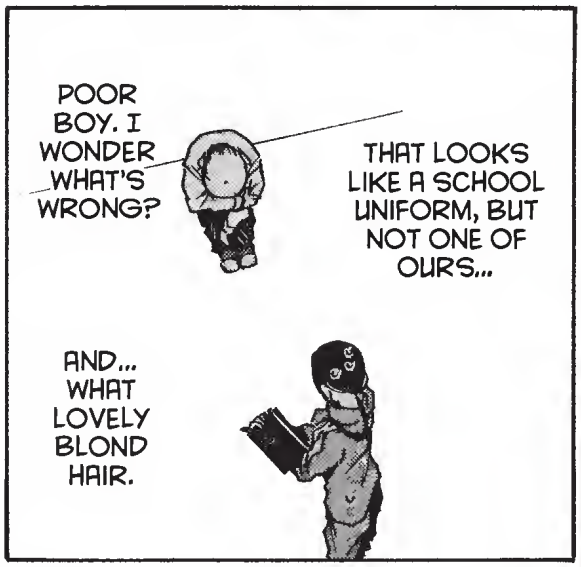
...
UM...
I CALL HIKARI, HIKARI...
AND KYOKO, KYOKO, BUT...
WELL...

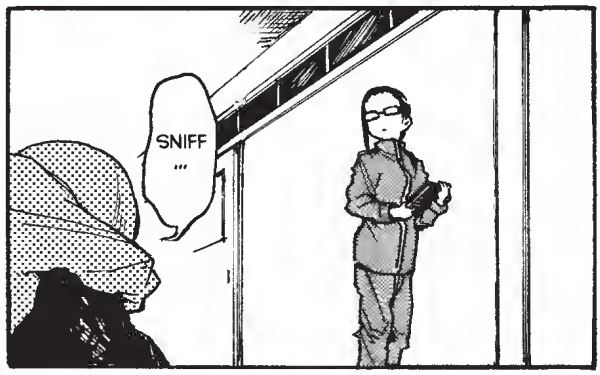
IT DOESN'T MATTER THAT MUCH WHAT WE CALL EACH OTHER, RIGHT?
HUH?
YOU BROUGHT IT UP...


HEY, TAKA-NASHI!
HOW ABOUT YOU GIVE ME A NICK-NAME?
HUH?
UMM-MM...
GO AHEAD!
I DON'T CARE WHAT YOU COME UP WITH!
JUST SAY ANY-THING!
THAT'S ...
HMM...
...
SORRY...
WHAT WAS YOUR NAME AGAIN?
SA-TAKE

INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS

...
SNIFF...
SOB...
HIC...

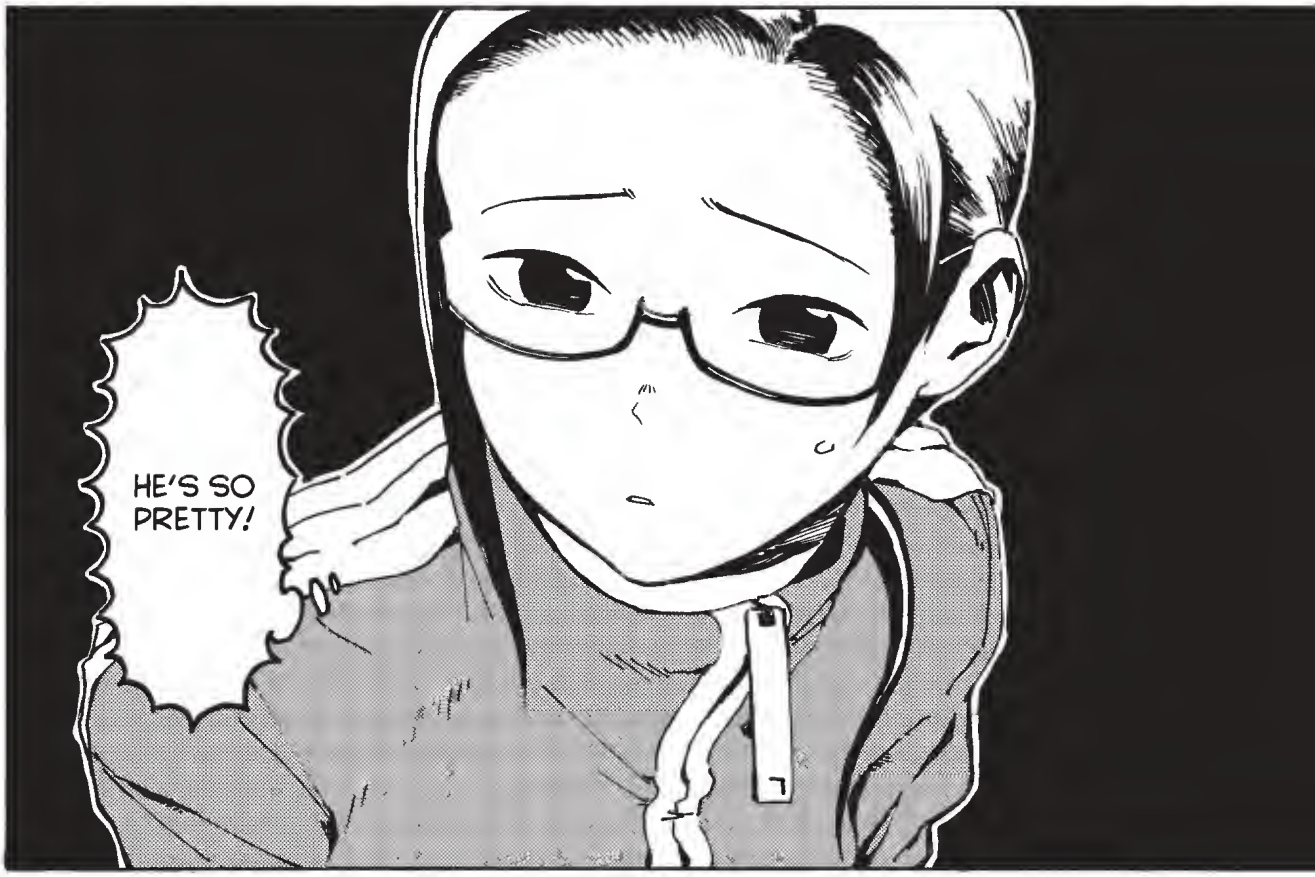

POOR BOY. I WONDER WHAT'S WRONG?
THAT LOOKS LIKE A SCHOOL UNIFORM, BUT NOT ONE OF OURS...
AND... WHAT LOVELY BLOND HAIR.

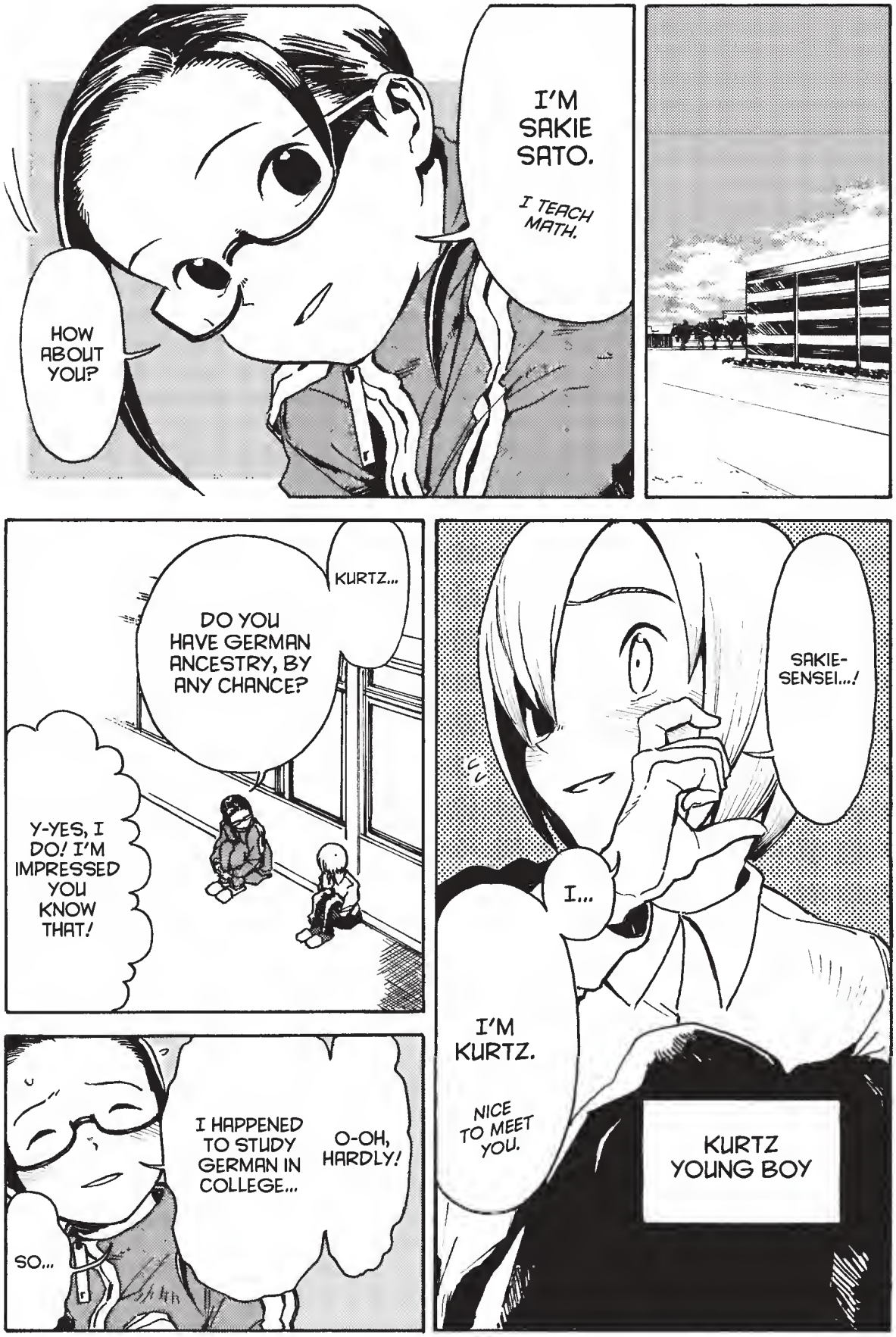

SNIFF ...

ARE YOU OKAY ...?
WH— WHAT'S WRONG?
!
SFF

...
A BOY I HAVEN'T SEEN BEFORE, CRYING IN THE HALLWAY...

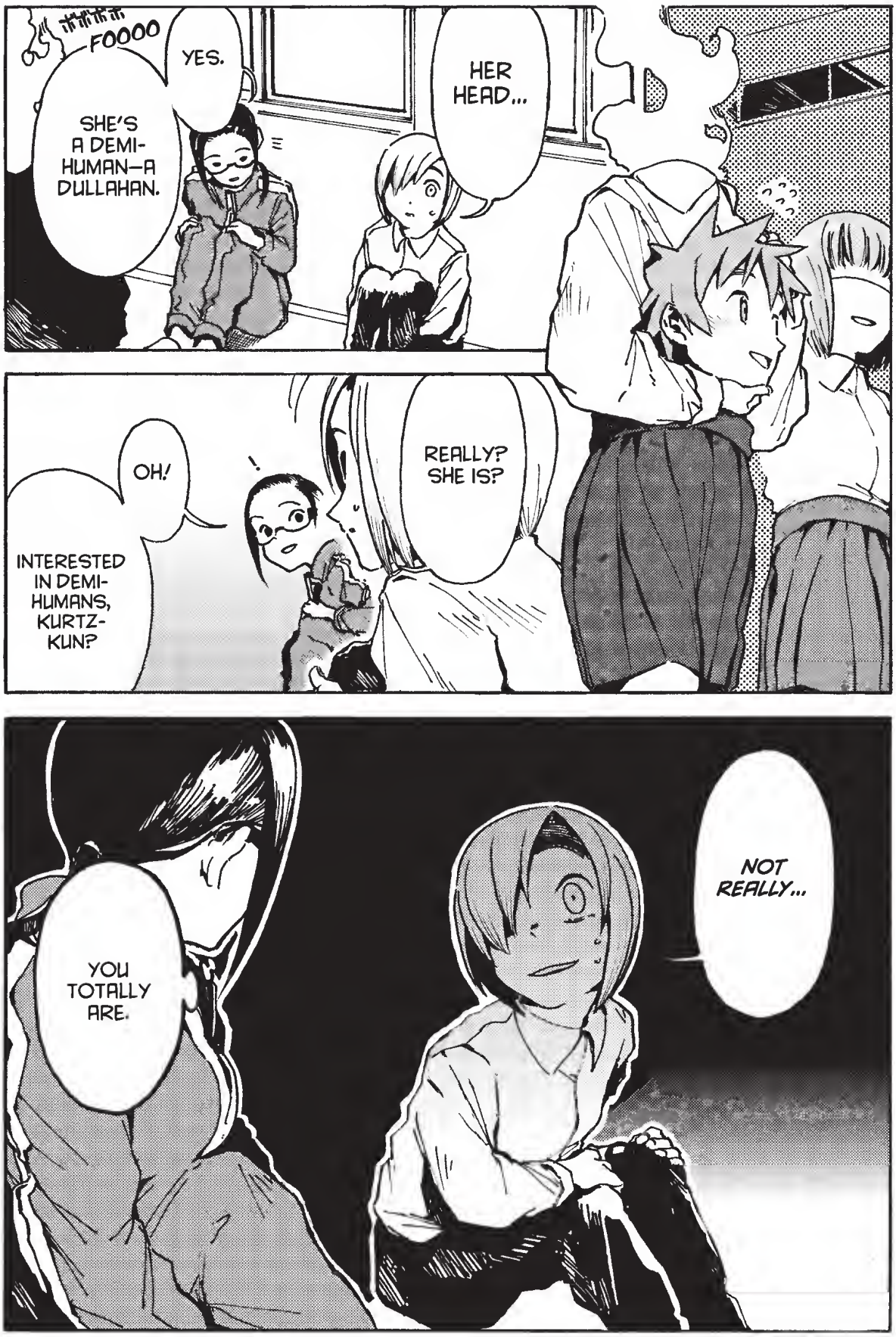
...
ぐずっ
SNIFF...


HE'S SO PRETTY!


I'M SAKIE SATO.
I TEACH MATH.
HOW ABOUT YOU?
KURTZ...
DO YOU HAVE GERMAN ANCESTRY, BY ANY CHANCE?
Y-YES, I DO! I'M IMPRESSED YOU KNOW THAT!
SAKIE-SENSEI...!
I...
I'M KURTZ.
NICE TO MEET YOU.
KURTZ YOUNG BOY
I HAPPENED TO STUDY GERMAN IN COLLEGE...
O-OH, HARDLY!
SO...

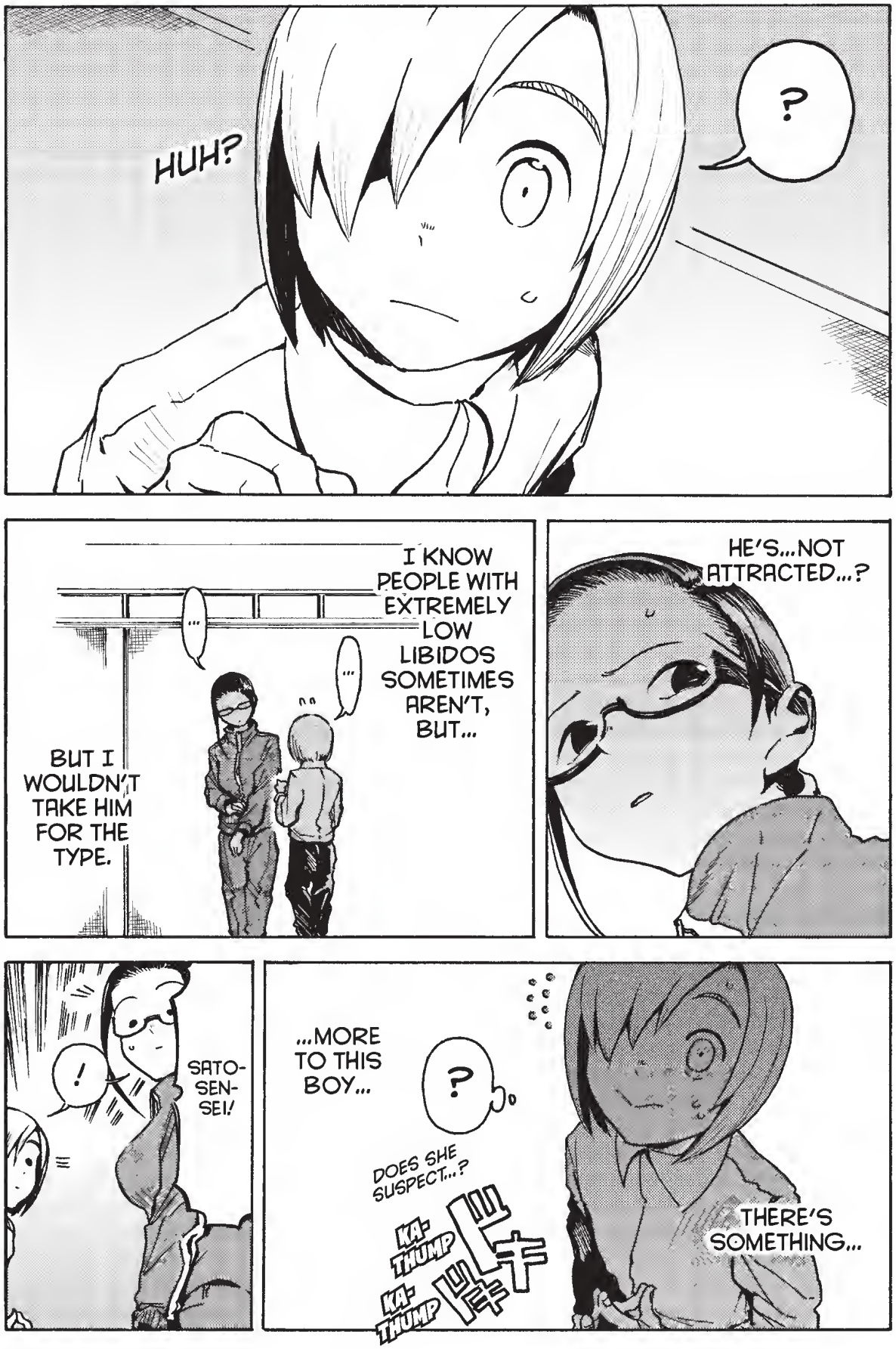
OH, UH...
SOMEONE WAS WITH ME...
...BUT WE GOT SEPARATED.
...WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, KURTZ-KUN?
!
OH...
UH-HH...
WILL YOU BE TRANS-FERRING HERE?
DID A PARENT BRING YOU?
SO THAT'S WHY HE WAS CRYING BY HIMSELF.
APPARENTLY NOT...
GRIN
YEAH...

SHOULD I PRESS HIM?
HE'S CLEARLY LYING ABOUT BEING A TRANSFER...
HE DOESN'T SEEM LIKE A BAD KID, THOUGH... HMM...
I FEEL BAD LYING TO A NICE PERSON LIKE SAKIE-SENSEI... BUT THERE'S NO CHOICE!
I CAN'T LET HER KNOW WHAT I REALLY AM!
NOTE: ALREADY FOUND OUT
I HAVE TO CONVINCE HER I'M A TRANSFER STUDENT, LOOKING FOR MY FATHER!
HI, SATO-SENSEI!
OH! HI, SATO-SENSEI!
GAB GAB
!
HELLO, GIRLS...

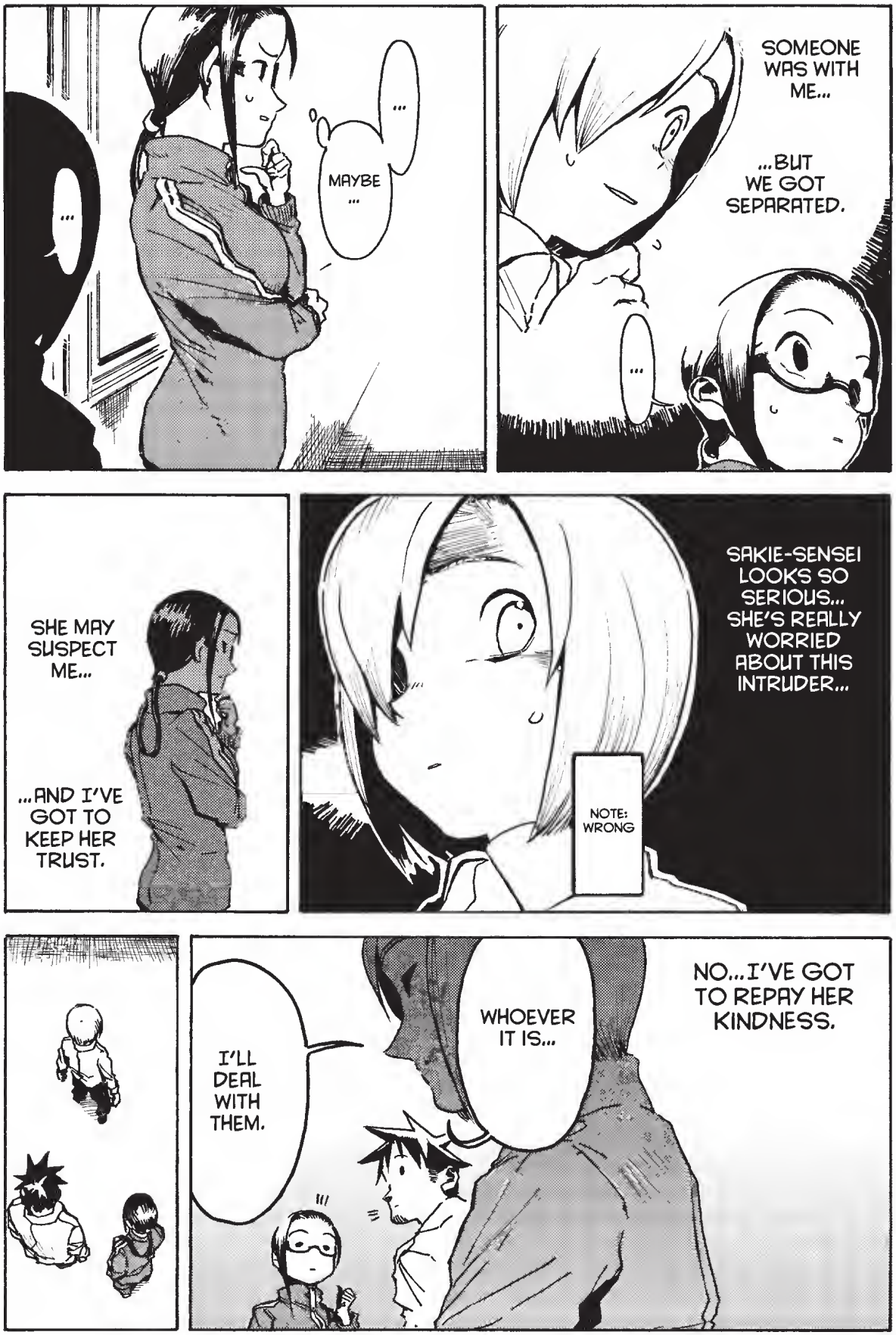

ボボボボ
FOOOO
YES.
SHE'S A DEMI-HUMAN—A DULLAHAN.
HER HEAD...
REALLY? SHE IS?
OH!
INTERESTED IN DEMI-HUMANS, KURTZ-KUN?
YOU TOTALLY ARE.
NOT REALLY...

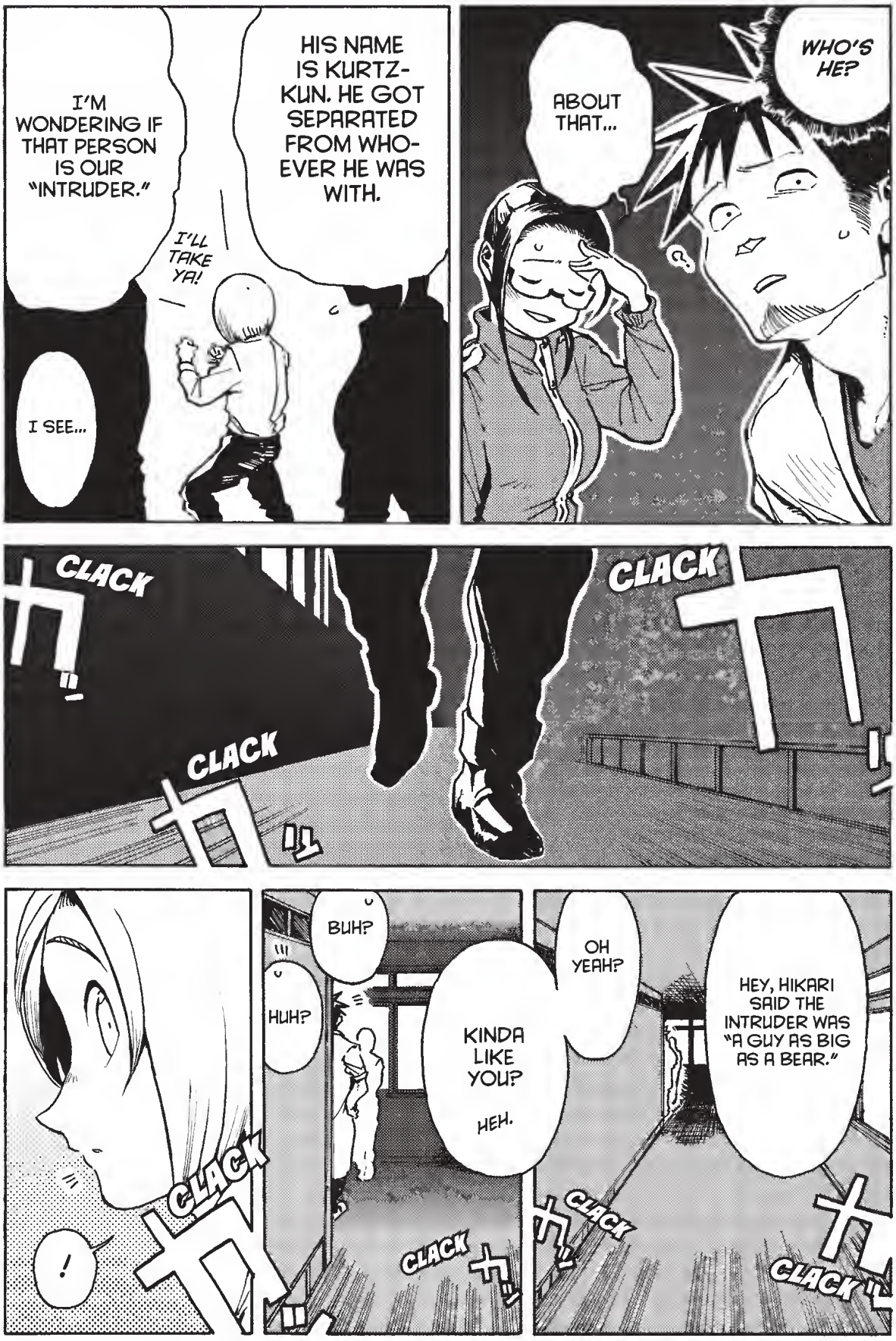
...
...
THAT WAS CLOSE.
MY TRUE SELF...
...AND MY GOAL...
...MUST NOT BE SUSPECTED!
NOTE: ALREADY SUSPECTED
HE'S INTERESTED IN DEMI-HUMANS... I SHOULD TRY TO TALK WITH HIM.
BUT I DON'T THINK HE'D BE HONEST WITH ME...
LET'S GO FIND YOUR PARENT.
UM, WHERE ARE YOU-?
THAT SEEMS LIKE THE QUICKEST SOLUTION.
KRACK
I COULD ATTRACT HIM AND THEN MAKE HIM TELL ME...!
NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!
WHY DO I THINK THESE THINGS? ARGH!
VWIP
LOS GEHTS!
COME ON!
OH...
W...

JERK
WAI...
?!
OH NO...


HUH?
?
I KNOW PEOPLE WITH EXTREMELY LOW LIBIDOS SOMETIMES AREN'T, BUT...
...
...
BUT I WOULDN'T TAKE HIM FOR THE TYPE.
HE'S...NOT ATTRACTED...?
SATO-SEN-SEI!
!
...MORE TO THIS BOY...
?
DOES SHE SUSPECT...?
KA-THUMP
KA-THUMP
THERE'S SOMETHING...

TAKA-HASHI-SENSEI!
IS SOME-THING WRONG?
Y-
YEAH ...
HIKARI SAID SHE SAW AN INTRUDER ON CAMPUS...
A-AN INTRUDER?!
WE'RE TALKING ABOUT HIKARI, SO SHE MIGHT HAVE EMBELLISHED A BIT.
...
ANYWAY, BE CAREFUL.
AN INTRU-DER...


...
...
MAYBE ...
SOMEONE WAS WITH ME...
...BUT WE GOT SEPARATED.
...
SHE MAY SUSPECT ME...
...AND I'VE GOT TO KEEP HER TRUST.
SAKIE-SENSEI LOOKS SO SERIOUS... SHE'S REALLY WORRIED ABOUT THIS INTRUDER...
NOTE: WRONG
NO...I'VE GOT TO REPAY HER KINDNESS.
WHOEVER IT IS...
I'LL DEAL WITH THEM.

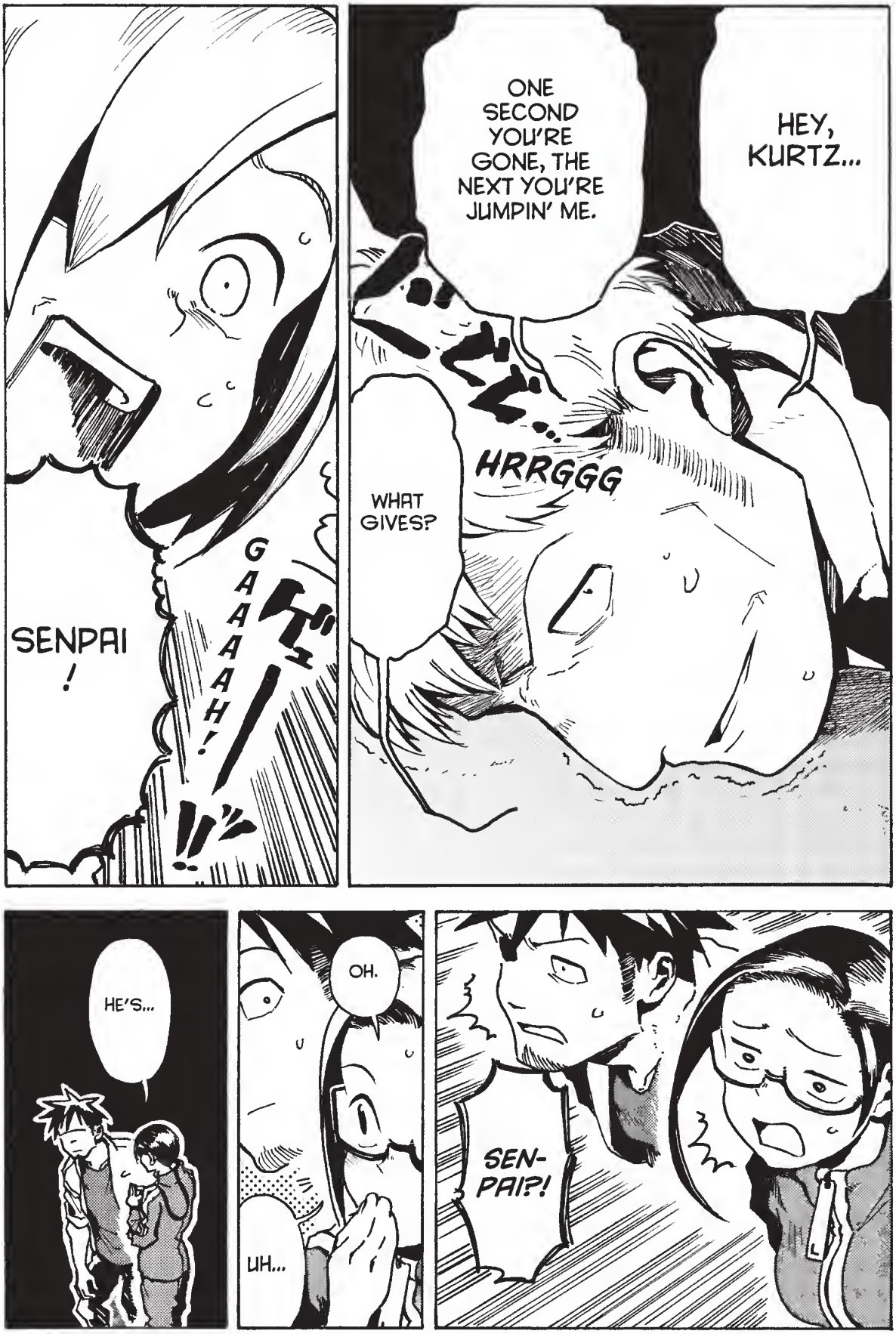

I'M WONDERING IF THAT PERSON IS OUR "INTRUDER."
HIS NAME IS KURTZ-KUN. HE GOT SEPARATED FROM WHO-EVER HE WAS WITH.
I'LL TAKE YA!
I SEE...
WHO'S HE?
ABOUT THAT...
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
!
BUH?
HUH?
KINDA LIKE YOU?
HEH.
OH YEAH?
HEY, HIKARI SAID THE INTRUDER WAS "A GUY AS BIG AS A BEAR."
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK

GET BACK!
SHOOP
OH, I'M SURE HE'S MUCH TALLER THAN M—

WHACK
HRR
GRAB
?!!
HWAH!

YEEK!
YIPES!
SLAM
EEYOW!
ARE YOU OKAY, SAKIE-SENSEI?!
OW OW OW OW OW
PULL PULL PULL PULL
UH, YEAH...
THAT WAS REALLY SOME-THING.
...

U...
UGAKI-SAN?
PULL PULL
PULL
PULL
OW OW OW OWWWW
SWEAAAAT
UGAKI-SAN...?
UGAKI-SAN...?
UM...
AH-HEH...
ER...
...

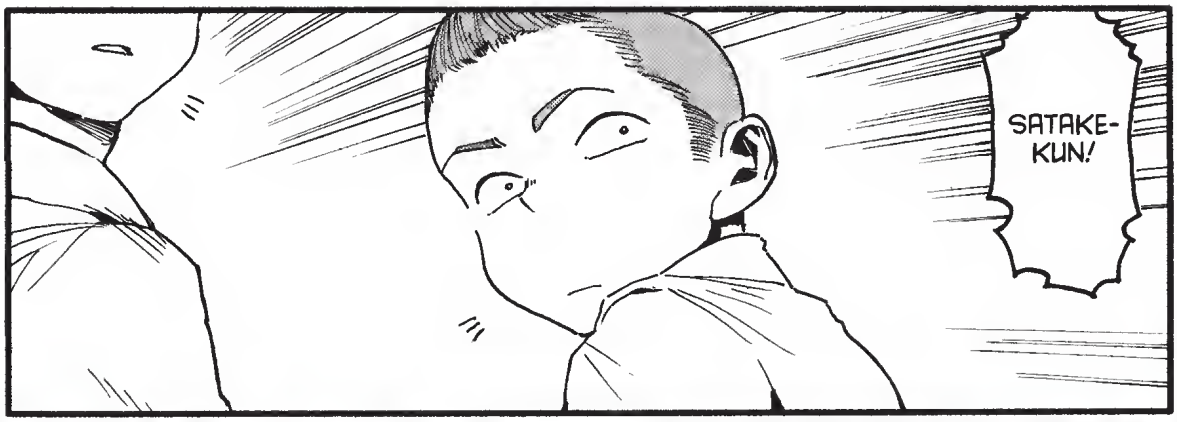

SENPAI!
GAAAAAH!
HEY, KURTZ...
ONE SECOND YOU'RE GONE, THE NEXT YOU'RE JUMPIN' ME.
HRRGGG
WHAT GIVES?
HE'S...
OH.
UH...
SEN-PAI?!

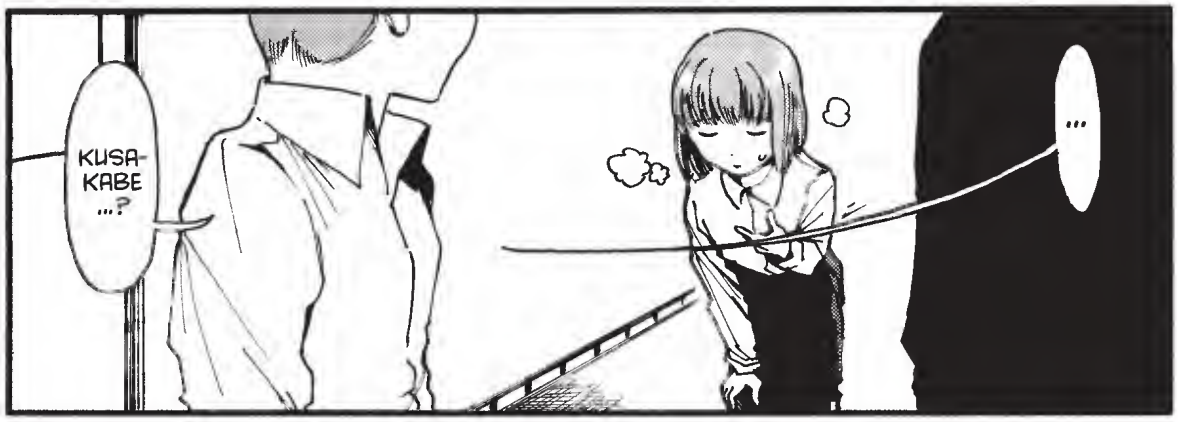
HE'S A DETECTIVE I KNOW.
KURTZ
DETECTIVE
UGAKI
DETECTIVE

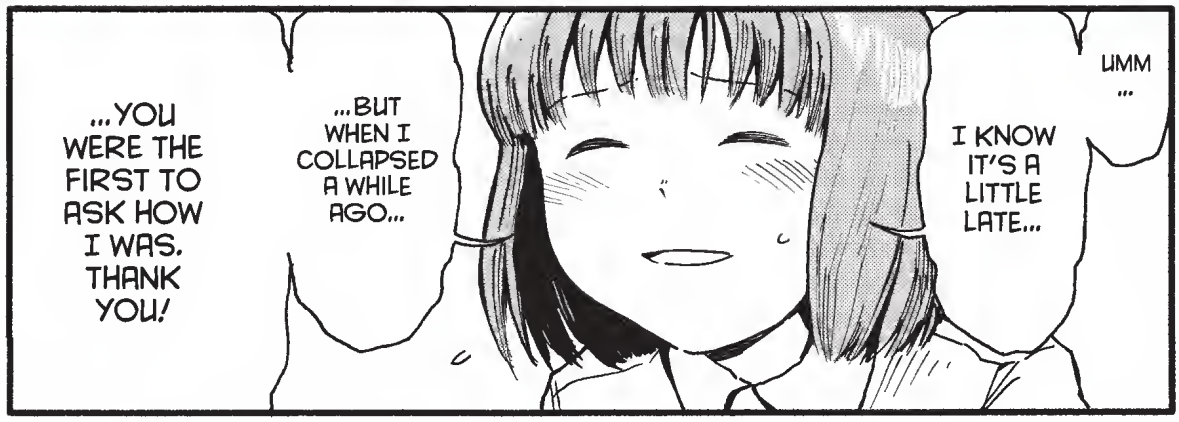
A DETEC-TIVE?!

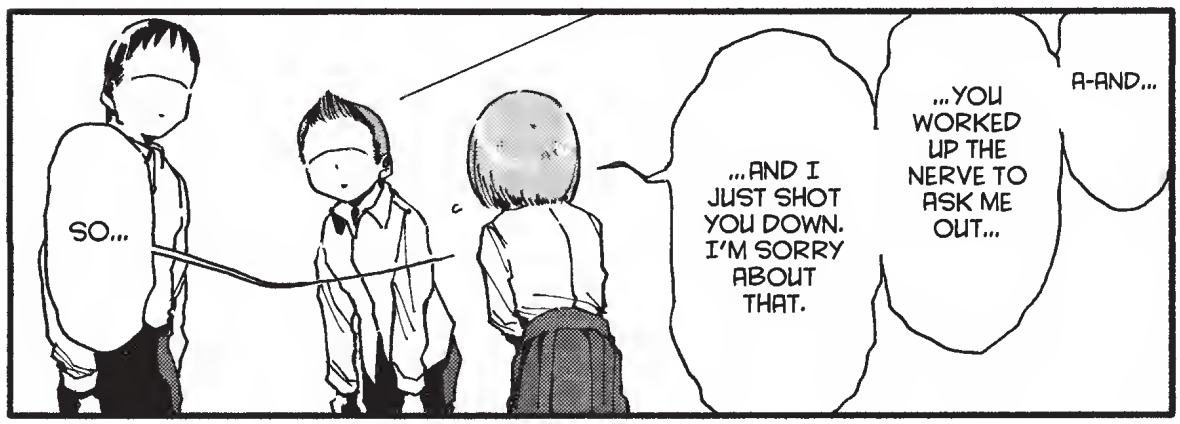
VOLUME 2/END

WHAT?!
I SAW AN INTRUDER!
SENSEI! AN INTRUDER!
WHAT'D HE LOOK LIKE?
UMM...
AS BIG AS A BEAR...
UH-HUH...
SHAGGY
もじゃ
もじゃ
SHAGGY
AND HIS HAIR WAS REALLY... SHAGGY.
...
AND HIS EYES GLINTED LIKE A PREDATOR ON THE HUNT!
DID YOU SEE AN ACTUAL BEAR?!


SATAKE-KUN!


KUSA-KABE ...?
...


...YOU WERE THE FIRST TO ASK HOW I WAS. THANK YOU!
...BUT WHEN I COLLAPSED A WHILE AGO...
I KNOW IT'S A LITTLE LATE...
UMM ...


SO...
...AND I JUST SHOT YOU DOWN. I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT.
...YOU WORKED UP THE NERVE TO ASK ME OUT...
A-AND...

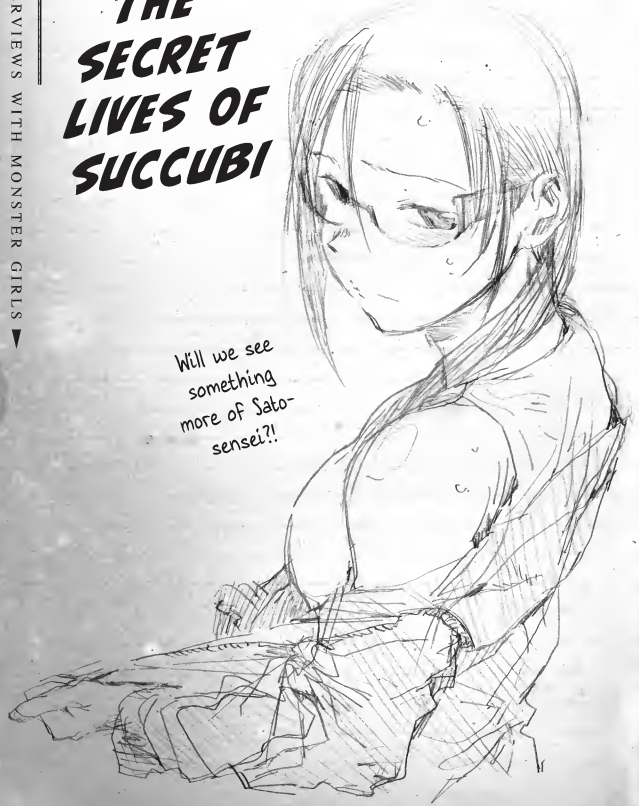
H-HOW ABOUT WE GO OUT SOMEWHERE? YOU KNOW...
...TO KARAOKE...
...OR SOME-THING...
...
HRRRRR
YEAA-AAAH-HHH!!

TURNS OUT IT WASN'T A DATE.
HUH? ARE YOU THE ONLY GUY, SATAKE-KUN?

INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS

Next time in *Monster Girls*...

THE SECRET LIVES OF SUCCUBI



INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS

by Petos

Volume 3—on sale Spring 2017!

INTERVIEWS WITH MONSTER GIRLS

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THE FOLLOWING *MONSTER GIRLS* BONUS CHAPTER APPEARED SPECIALLY IN YOUNG MAGAZINE.

THEY ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN.
SO IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE VERY UNUSUAL TO MEET ONE.
SCIENCE LAB
TAP
TAP
DING-DONG
PEOPLE WITH SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT TRAITS THAN TYPICAL HUMANS.
THIS WORLD IS HOME TO "DEMIS"...
A SNOW WOMAN, A SUCCUBUS, A DULLAHAN...
BUT FOR SOME REASON, SEVERAL ARE AT THIS SCHOOL.
I'VE MET QUITE A FEW, IN FACT.
TAP
TAP
AGAIN?
...THE FIRST ONE WHO TALKED TO ME.
CLATTER
AND THEN THERE'S...
IT'S SO HOO-OOT!
LET'S COOL THIS PLACE DOWN, SENSEI!

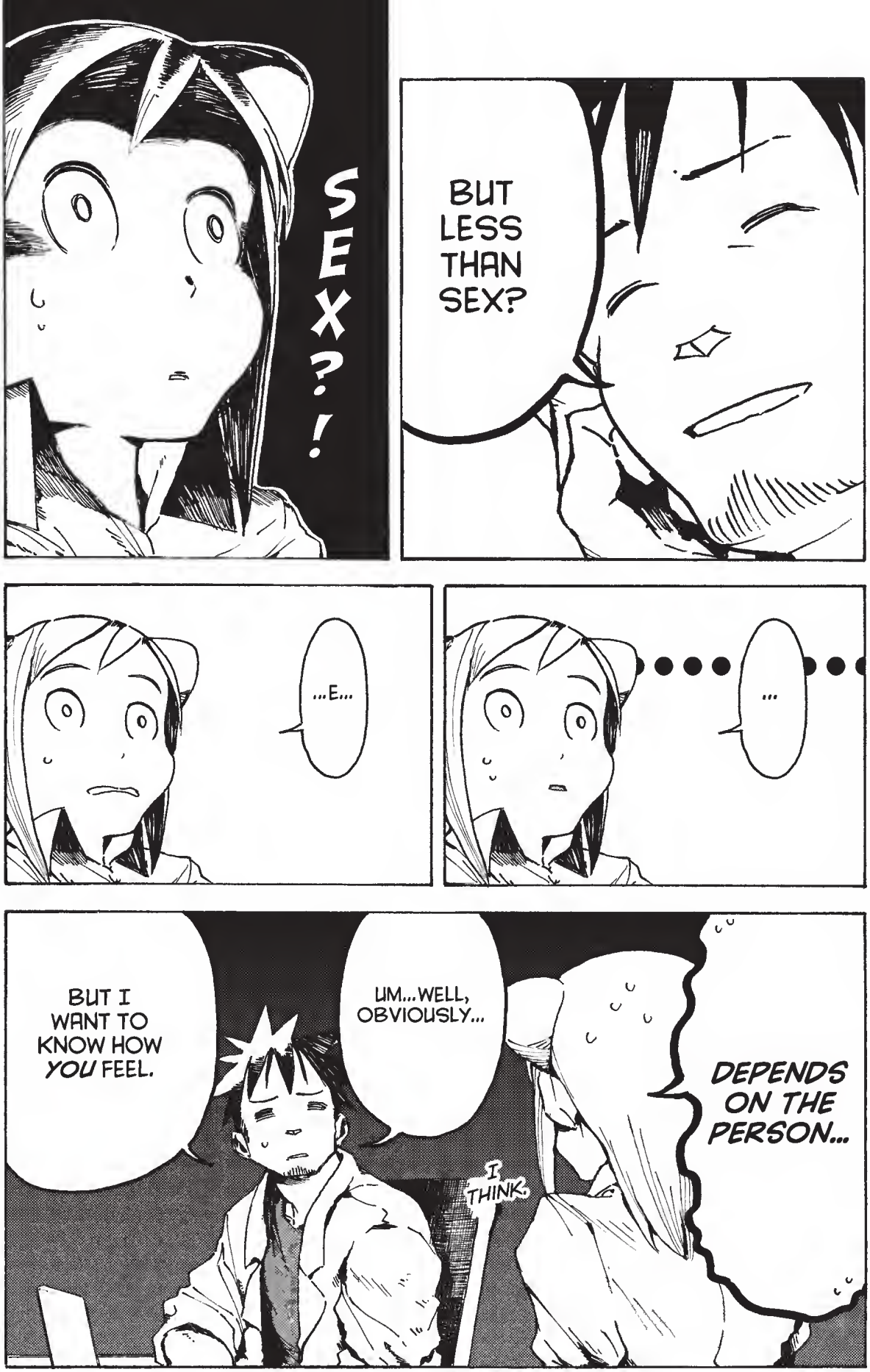
Bonus chapter: Hikari Takanashi, Vampire

HIKARI TAKANASHI.
SHE'S...
...A VAMPIRE.

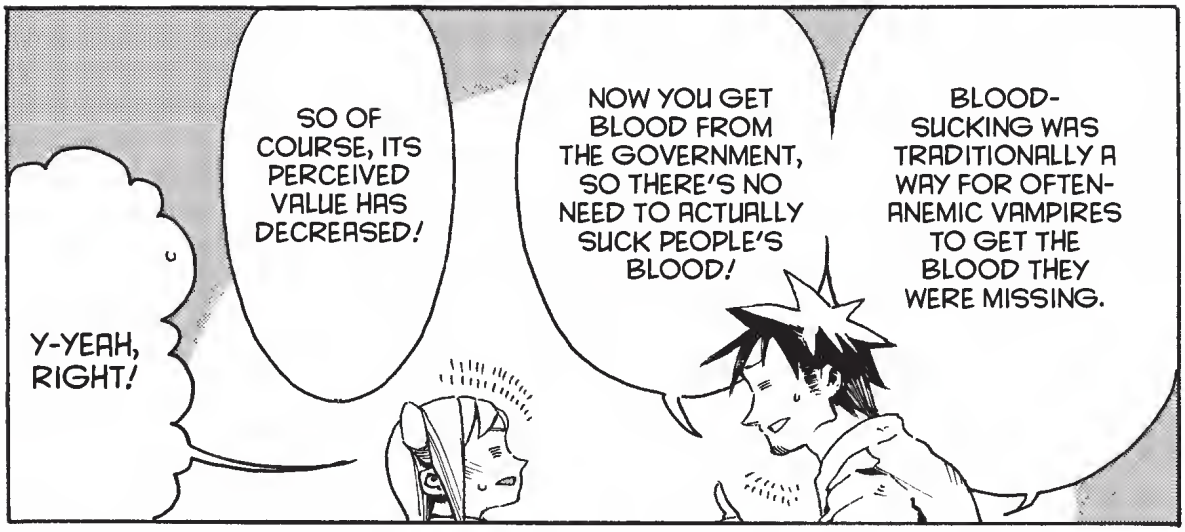
...
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
IT'S TOUGH, BEING IN THE SUN ALL THE TIME...
"STILL"? I SWEAR IT'S BEEN GETTING HOTTER EVERY DAY.
STILL NO GOOD WITH NATURAL LIGHT, HUH?
フラ
WOBBLE
I'VE BEEN TALKING TO YOU FOR A WHILE— ABOUT YOUR TRAITS, YOUR FEELINGS.
THIS?
I'M TRYING TO SUMMARIZE IT ALL.
OOH...
YIKES!
WHATCHA DOIN', SENSEI?!
ピョン!
POP
YOU'RE WARM! I THOUGHT YOU CAME HERE TO COOL DOWN!
YEAH.
WELL, VAM-PIRES.
OH! THERE'S ME!

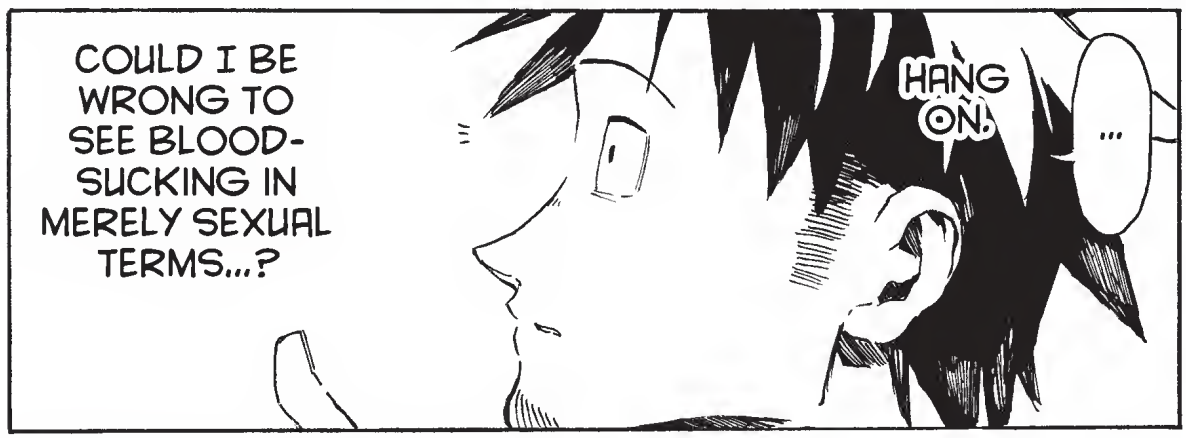
WE'VE COVERED A LOT, ACTUALLY.
WE CHATTED ABOUT CROSSES AND GARLIC, TOO.
THE NEED TO SUCK BLOOD...
SUN-LIGHT...
FOOD PREFER-ENCES...
HUH?
PERSONALLY, I FOUND THE ISSUE OF THE CONNECTION BETWEEN BLOOD-SUCKING AND LOVE TO BE ESPECIALLY FASCINATING.
L-LOVE...
ERK.
...
GUESS IT'S KIND OF AWKWARD, HUH?
...
OH, SORRY... I DON'T MEAN TO PUT TOO FINE A POINT ON IT.

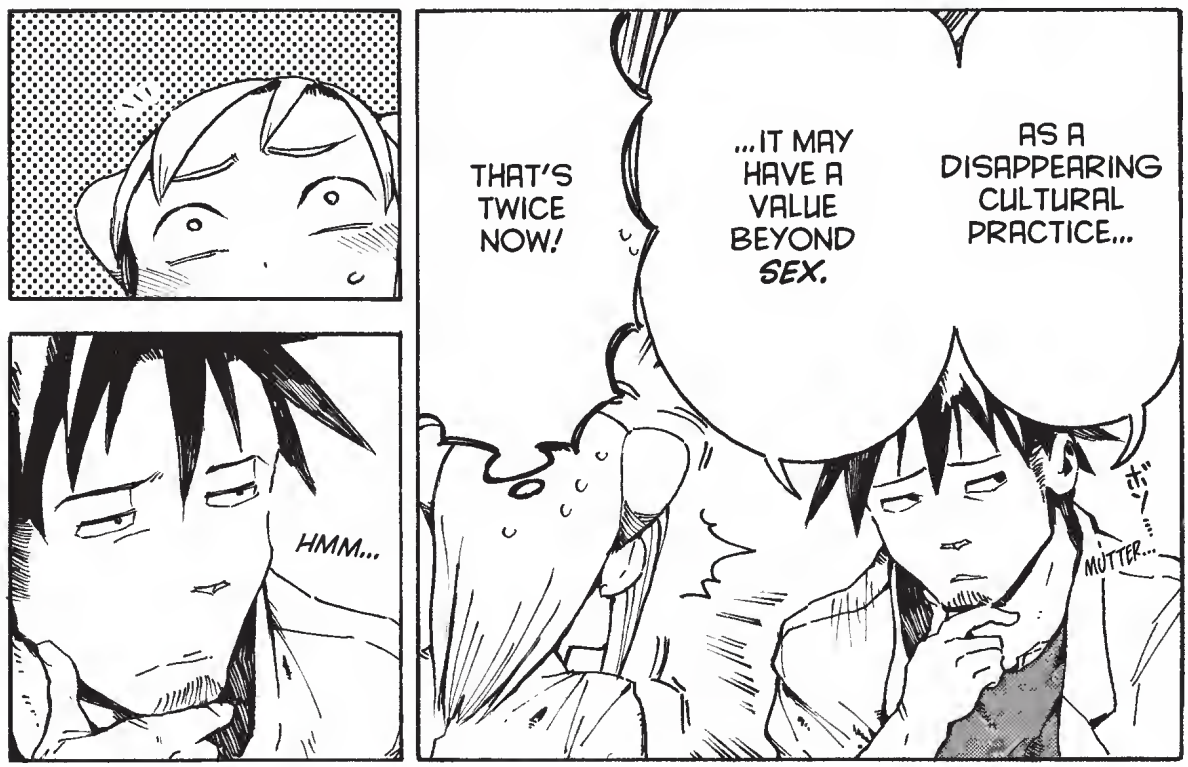
...
REALLY?
IN FACT, LET'S TALK ABOUT IT SOME MORE! ASK ME ANYTHING!
HUH?
N-NOT REALLY!
NOT AT ALL!
FWAH
Y-YOU MEAN...
...COMPARED TO A...
...LIKE ...
...A KISS...
...OR SOME-THING?
OKAY, IF YOU INSIST...
BLOOD-SUCKING APPEARS TO HAVE SEXUAL OVERTONES FOR VAMPIRES...
...BUT HOW STRONG ARE THEY?
HOW... HOW STRONG?
RIGHT.
LIKE...
...IS IT MORE THAN A KISS?


SEX?!
BUT LESS THAN SEX?
...E...
...
BUT I WANT TO KNOW HOW *YOU* FEEL.
UM...WELL, OBVIOUSLY...
I THINK.
DEPENDS ON THE PERSON...

BUT YOU SEE THAT STUFF IN TV SHOWS AND MOVIES, RIGHT?
COMPARED TO THAT...?
TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP
...
HUH?
...
...
I KNOW.
B-BUT I'VE NEVER BEEN IN LOVE...
AND I'VE ONLY EVER SUCKED A PERSON'S BLOOD ONCE...
TAP
TAP
TAP
...
NEWS TO ME.
SHE'S BEET RED.
...
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE MENTIONED SEX?
OH...
I MEAN...
EVERY-ONE'S DIFFERENT, OF COURSE...

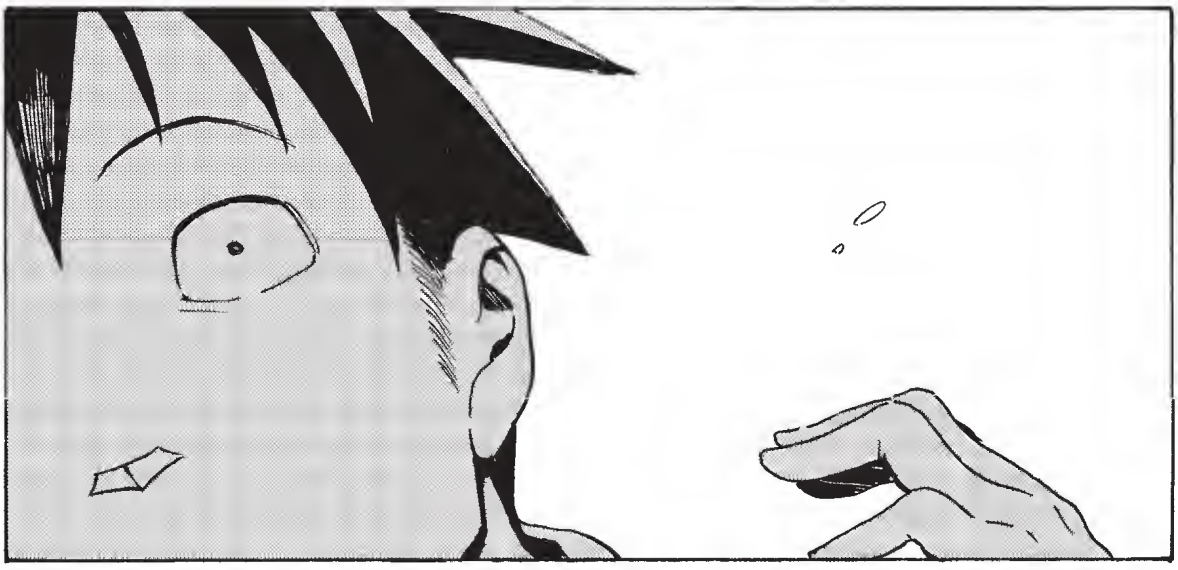

BLOOD-SUCKING WAS TRADITIONALLY A WAY FOR OFTEN-ANEMIC VAMPIRES TO GET THE BLOOD THEY WERE MISSING.
NOW YOU GET BLOOD FROM THE GOVERNMENT, SO THERE'S NO NEED TO ACTUALLY SUCK PEOPLE'S BLOOD!
SO OF COURSE, ITS PERCEIVED VALUE HAS DECREASED!
Y-YEAH, RIGHT!


COULD I BE WRONG TO SEE BLOOD-SUCKING IN MERELY SEXUAL TERMS...?
HANG ON!
...


AS A DISAPPEARING CULTURAL PRACTICE...
...IT MAY HAVE A VALUE BEYOND SEX.
THAT'S TWICE NOW!
MUTTER...
HMM...

...
HERE I'M TRYING SO HARD NOT TO SHOW HOW EMBARRASSED I AM...
HRRM...
BUT THIS IS GETTING TOUGH TO LISTEN TO...
OH!
!
?
ぽん
CLAP
PSST
PSST
...?
C'MERE, C'MERE.

PECK



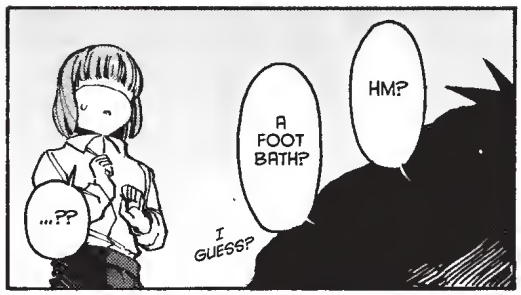
...
HEE HEE HEE!
GOTCHA! ♡
COMPARED TO BLOOD-SUCKING...
...MAYBE A KISS IS...
...A LITTLE EASIER? ♡

かああ
BLUUUUSH
I SEE!
"COMPARED TO BLOOD-SUCKING, A KISS IS EASIER..."
TAP
カタ
END QUOTE!
カタ TAP
カタ TAP
DON'T WRITE THAT!
HAVE SOME DECENCY!

WHA-AA?!
I TOTALLY GAVE SENSEI A KISS!
ON THE CHEEK!
OH, JUST THE CHEEK?
THE LITTLE SISTER
JUST THE CHEEK...
I'M STILL KIND OF JEALOUS.
SAKIE SATO
LIFELONG BACHE-LORETTE
LUCKY GIRL!!

TRANSLATION NOTES

Head jokes, page 56
For those interested in the original Japanese: The memo Kyoko writes is *kubi ga mawaranai*, or literally "can't turn your head" - indicating one is so deep into something (usually debt) they can't turn their head. The joke at the bottom of the page is *kubi wo nagakushite matsu* - to wait with one's neck outstretched, meaning to have great anticipation for something. Thankfully, the English language has many head-related idioms, so our translations can come pretty close!

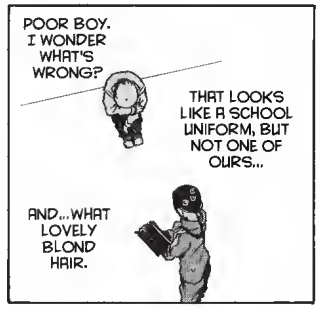


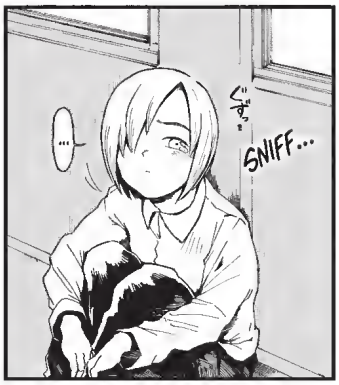
Foot bath, page 57
A "foot bath" (*ashiyu*) is a basin or fountain full of warm water that passers-by can use to rest their feet. They are especially common in towns with a large concentration of public bath houses.

"ONE WINTER NIGHT, IN A TERRIBLE BLIZZARD, A PALE, BEAUTIFUL WOMAN WITH LONG HAIR CAME TO A MAN..."
"A SNOW WOMAN STORY FROM NIIGATA PRE-FECTURE."
"WHEN HE FORCED HER INTO THE BATH WATER, SHE MELTED AWAY... ONLY A BIT OF AN ICICLE REMAINED..."
"HER BODY WAS COLD AS ICE, SO HE URGED HER TO TAKE A BATH, BUT SHE ADAMANTLY REFUSED."

Niigata Prefecture, page 60
Located roughly in the northwest of Honshu, Japan's main island, Niigata gets plenty of snow and would be a natural place to find stories like this.

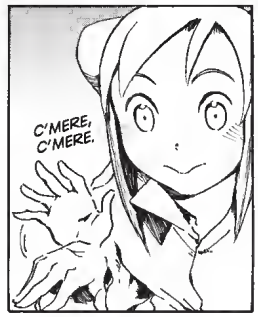
Not one of ours, page 107
Many Japanese middle and high schools require students to wear uniforms. The details of the uniform differ from school to school, however, such that it is possible to tell who attends which school based on their outfit.





Kurtz, page 108
The character design of Kurtz is an unmistakable homage to the title character of Shigeru Mizuki's series *GeGeGe no Kitaro*. This series, which began as a manga in 1960 and has been a staple of Japanese pop culture ever since, features a young monster boy and his adventures with the *yokai* (traditional monsters) that still inhabit Japan. The main difference between Kitaro and Kurtz is that Kitaro's hair parts to reveal his right eye, whereas Kurtz's reveals his left.

Young Magazine, page 132
Young Magazine is a sister publication of Young Magazine the 3rd, in which *Interviews with Monster Girls* normally runs.



C'mere, c'mere, page 141
Hikari makes the typical Asian beckoning gesture, with the palm down. To beckon with the palm up, or worse, with a single finger, is considered rude—which is why in anime and manga, characters often do it as an invitation to fight.

Interviews with Monster Girls 2

KODANSHA COMICS Digital Edition

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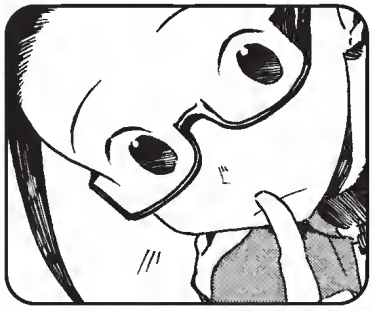
STOP!

You are going the wrong way!

Manga is a completely different type of reading experience.

To start at the BEGINNING, go to the END!



That's right! Authentic manga is read the traditional Japanese way—from right to left, exactly the opposite of how American books are read. It's easy to follow: just go to the other end of the book, and read each page—and each panel—from the right side to the left side, starting at the top right. Now you're experiencing manga as it was meant to be.